



“Civility Costs You Nothing” & Other Great Quotes on Manners

[The Little Homeschool Library](#)

Homeway Press
PO Box 187
Canmer, KY 42722

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Introduction

Many writers, observers and philosophers have written about the value of good manners throughout the ages. These quotes contain much insight, humor and wisdom, and have application for our boys even today.

You can use these quotations as a source for copy work in your homeschool studies, for memorization exercises, or just to create your own posters to stick on the refrigerator or bathroom mirror as a reminder to your young people. And learn from them yourself... it is never too late to improve your manners!

-- Jim Erskine

Manners are of more importance than laws. Manners are what vex or soothe, corrupt or purify, exalt or debase, barbarize or refine us, by a constant, steady, uniform, insensible operation, like that of the air we breathe in. - *Edmund Burke*

Prepare yourself for the world, as the athletes used to do for their exercise; oil your mind and your manners, to give them the necessary suppleness and flexibility; strength alone will not do. - *Lord Chesterfield*

Consideration for others is the basic of a good life, a good society. - *Confucius*

Good Manners means that you can behave yourself a little better than is absolutely essential. - *Will Cuppy*

Good manners are made up of small sacrifices.
- *Emerson*

The basis of good manners is self-reliance.
- *Emerson*

Rudeness is a weak imitation of strength.
- *Eric Hoffer*

Politeness makes one appear outwardly as they should be within.
- *La Bruyere*

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Manners easily and rapidly mature into morals.
- *Horace Mann*

Manners make the man. - *old saying*

Civility costs you nothing. - *old saying*

Manners are a sensitive awareness of the feelings of others. If you have that awareness, you have good manners, no matter what fork you use. - *Emily Post*

Anyone can be polite to a king. But it takes a real man to be polite to his brother. - *old saying*

Courtesy is the one coin you can never have too much of or be stingy with. - *John Wanamaker*

The test of good manners is to be able to put up pleasantly with bad ones. - *Wendell Wilkie*

Speak modestly,
do not put self above others,
do not be easily offended,
do not retaliate injuries,
try not to offend others,
look for the good in both friend and foe,
be cheerful and pleasant,
and freely express affection to friends and loved ones.
- *Benjamin Franklin*