

# How to Attract Flies



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The old saying "You catch more flies with honey than you do with vinegar" fits perfectly with Peter's letter. He's been telling Christians how to live in plain view of the unbelieving world

# How to Attract Flies

Now he goes into the church and tells us how to treat each other. It's his hope that an exhibition of real, Christian love will provide a base of satisfying fellowship for us and attract unbelievers. But how?

# The Profile of a Born Again Believer

1. Be of one mind, or like-minded

2. Having compassion

3. Love as brothers

4. Be tenderhearted

5. Be courteous

# *HOW TO RESPOND TO INSULTS*

By Our Gentle Response (v. 9)

“Be Good, Be Kind, Be Gentle” Frank Rossiter

Bless back that you might get a blessing

Imprecatory Psalms

## *HOW TO RESPOND TO INSULTS*

Persecutions on earth today will add blessings to you  
in heaven tomorrow (Matthew 5:11-12)

### **HOW TO ATTRACT FLIES**

By your general attitude of love

By your gentle response of blessing

# *HOW TO RESPOND TO INSULTS*

By Our Genuine Motivation (vv. 10-12)

Peter quotes the Old Testament (Psalm 34)

## *HOW TO RESPOND TO INSULTS*

It takes the whole Bible to make a whole believer  
This is the way to have a good life: if you love life,  
then love people

*Joie de vivre* (French), describes someone who is a  
lover of life—vs. Solomon (see Ecclesiastes 2:17)



# *HOW TO RESPOND TO INSULTS*

Because God is watching

*Watching* = superintending, watching over with care,  
protecting, listening to

You don't need to worry about the people who do you  
evil; God sees it, notices, and will take care of it

## *HOW TO RESPOND TO INSULTS*

This whole passage (1 Peter 3:8-12) describes God's character (Romans 5:8)

<sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

# Closing Thoughts

We are not the company of the faultless; we are the  
company of the forgiven

We should open our doors to the unlovely and the  
hurting and show Christ's love