

DA56. Minding Our Own Business.

We are to mind our own business.

This precept is derived from His Word (blessed is He):

Key New Testament Scriptures

1 Thessalonians 4:11

Also, make it your ambition to live quietly, to mind your own business and to earn your living by your own efforts- just as we told you.

Additional New Testament Scriptures

2 Thessalonians 3:11

1 Timothy 5:13

1 Peter 4:15

Related New Testament Mitzvot

DA07 Being Sensitive to Each Other's Needs

DA32 Empathizing & Sympathizing with Our Neighbor's Joys and Sorrows

DA49 Bearing One Another's Burdens

DA53 Rescuing Our Neighbor

Supportive Tanakh Scriptures

Proverbs 26:17

Like someone who grabs a dog by the ears is a passer-by who mixes in a fight not his own.

Comment

Minding our own business, meddling, and not being busy bodies are the same. A colloquial way of saying it is "*Don't poke your nose where it does not belong.*" Scripture is not, however, saying that we should never know of our neighbor's affairs. In fact, Philippians 2:4 commands us to: "*look out for each other's interests and not just for your own,*" and we cannot do that without knowing something of our neighbor's affairs – what he is going through and what are his needs.

There are times when our neighbor's affairs should be solely his own and not be probed into, and there are times when our neighbor may not want something of his affairs known but, out of love and a desire to help, we should seek to know. We must seek the Holy Spirit for wisdom so as not to intrude unnecessarily and yet be open to giving help when it is needed and appropriate.

Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2

N03 *Helping Our Neighbor Who is in Need*