

F 9. PLEASANT HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS

One of the most important things for our human lives is the nature of our relationships with other human beings. How happy we are depends in large measure on how satisfactory these human relationships are. How well do we get along with and enjoy our relationships with fellow workers on the job if we are working for pay? how satisfactory are most of our relationships with other people with whom we associate in one capacity or other?

A little reflection will tell us that although many relationships have quite different purposes, it makes a lot of difference to us whether most of the relationships are pleasant or unpleasant.

In any case that is not something that we can control fully. Some other people may simply have a somewhat unpleasant disposition. Or some may regard us as having a somewhat unpleasant disposition. In the latter case, we can't simply blame unpleasant relations on other people. The fault may be partly our own. Few of us will likely admit that that could be the case, but if it is, & we are lucky enough to hear that said of us, the question is could we change that in ourselves. The answer is that everyone can change that if they really want to do so. And if we do change ourselves in that respect, we will undoubtedly become happier ourselves as well as make other people happier to know us.

Usually of course we will think the trouble lies only in others. Even if it does, that does not necessarily mean that we can do nothing about it. Although some other people are hopeless, not everyone is.

Most people respond differently if some people they meet and have dealings with or conversations with show a genuine interest in them & in their problems and a concern that things go better for them. This can sometimes improve a whole relationship, so long as one does not appear just too noseey.

Everybody wants to be understood. Everybody wants others to be concerned with their well-being. Showing some understanding of others, and real concern for their well-being can improve most relationships.