

## DEED

A Cub Scout is tasked with doing a good deed; which mean he/she must perform some act that results in goodness. Doing a good deed benefits both the receiver and the giver; the giver benefits with a sense of good doing while the receiver accepts the kindness and generosity.



Deeds can be both good and wicked; in other words, the outcome can be intended to help someone or to hurt them. Don't confuse a wicked deed as one that results in hurt – it is the intention of the giver that differentiates the two types of deeds. If the intention was not to hurt but to help, the deed is still good. In the ordeals of the day, we may hurt someone else having never intended to do so; but sensitivity to such ordeals may enable us to apologize if not altogether limit the possibility. Our words, or *the tongue* to use the Biblical term, can be a real source of evil deeds in the form of gossip, lies, and other character-damaging conversation.

Having been hurt by someone is reason enough to be conscious of our own words, actions, and interaction with others. When others hurt us, an apology may not be enough to heal the hurt – we may still have to deal with the reason or intention. For example, someone may say something hurtful because they expressly do not like you. Though they may later apologize, the basis for their cutting remarks remains; hence you must deal with the basis or reason for their dislike of you even if the basis is jealousy, vindictiveness, or downright hatred.

Why should we desire to do good deeds? Not because we expect others to respond in kind, but because we are called to be agents of goodness in Jesus. The scriptures in 1 Peter tell us to *Live such goods lives that others may see you good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.* As so, from Matthew, *Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds, and praise your father in heaven.*

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