

Back in the 1990s, W.W.J.D.? (What Would Jesus Do?) went mainstream printed on bumperstickers, tee-shirts, and ballcaps. This acronym was made popular in part by quarterback Tim Tebow. I believe football star Nick Foles still wears his W.W.J.D.? bracelet.

"What Would Jesus Do?" was the subtitle of the 1896 best-selling fictional novel "IN HIS STEPS" by Charles M. Sheldon. The storyline is about a spiritual breakthrough taking place in Chicago, with leadership and the citizenry approaching all problems by asking the question: "If Jesus were in my shoes, what would be His response?"

For a Christian, this is a question holding relevancy with discussing all issues, in all times, and in all places.

Our faith affirms that sexual expression is restricted to one man and one woman in the bond of legal marriage: Christ never married. And our Saviour was sinless, implying that He was a virgin.

If Jesus were in our American healthcare system and needed an intimate exam, care or procedure, would He embrace opposite gender providers attending to Him? I cannot imagine that the Master, a 33 year old pure virgin would consent to a gender neutral nurse!

Following traditional Jewish burial customs, Our Lord's dead body was washed, anointed with aloes and wrapped in linen by Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus. The women at the cross did not act as morticians. Going to the tomb on Easter morning, the Holy Women brought fragrant spices to be sprinkled over the shroud, not Christ's uncovered flesh.

So, guys, if you're a Christian and others attempt to make you feel that you're an oddball because you desire to uphold a minimal standard of modesty as a man, never forget, you have a precedent. If Jesus were the patient in this medical facility, what would He do? I think we know the answer to the question!

With the discussion on this site about patient modesty, there is an aspect of this issue, which has been overlooked:

The Grand Teacher in The Sermon On The Mount supplied us with a basic principle for living:

"So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is The Law and The Prophets." (E.S.V.: Matthew 7:12 & Luke 6: 31).

This sacred text acquired its familiar name "The Golden Rule" in early Christian times because it was painted in gold on the walls of government buildings as a reminder to civil servants how they were to treat the public and one another! Maybe The Golden Rule needs to be featured on the walls of our medical centers and nursing homes!

Philosophers in antiquity and the founders of other religions delivered a very similar precept, but expressed with a negative tone: "Don't do to others what you don't want them doing to you." Either way, the premise remains the same, treat people in all circumstances, the way you would want them to treat you.

Let's take this idea and apply it to opposite gender intimate exams, care, and procedures.

The female nurse bullying or shaming a reluctant male patient for her insertion of a urinary catheter in him---is she welcoming a male nurse some day to do the same with her? (Inquiring minds want to know!)

The female tech thinking it is okay for her to give an embarrassed male an ultrasound of his scrotum, is she going on record that when the time comes, she is accepting of a male to perform a mammogram on her?

The fresh out of the community college young girl showing up at the bedside to carry-out pre-op shaving on a nervous chap, will she announce to the world, that should the tables be reversed, she has no

problem for a guy to appear with a razor and foam to work on her?

"In everything, do to others what you would have them do to you." (Matthew 7:12). As a push-back to the medical industry, toss Christ's principle of reciprocity at its leadership, staff and workers! With numerous hospitals possessing a church affiliation (at least in their establishment), how can they dismiss the instruction of The Teacher of Teachers?

Prepare yourself to confront "the system", defending oneself with a higher moral ground. And prayerfully and respectfully make your case, because you have one!