



*by Alissa Johnson
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I came across this quote one day when I was browsing through a magazine, and I thought it was worth sharing. The author of the quote is unknown. The quote goes like this: "It's nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice."

It seems simple enough, but the quote really has a good lesson. In the competitive world we live in, we are always striving to be the best and brightest at everything we do. Being on top gets our names out into the world and might even get us some kind of added attention or incentive. There is nothing wrong with achieving excellence, but it is important to remember where we came from and who helped us.

Being well-known and having prestigious roles in life helps us as juniors gain a lot of experience that will be very helpful for us as we finish school and begin our careers. These opportunities will likely be second to none. With all of these important roles to fulfill, it is easy to forget to be nice to the people around you.

Being nice is something very easy we can all do. It might be sharing your toy tractors with another little boy when you are playing in the dirt at a show. Or it might be asking a girl to dance when she doesn't look like she is having very much fun. It can also mean giving a "job well done" to the girl who didn't do very well with her heifer on show day. Being nice also means thanking your parents for all the hard work they put into your cattle. Being nice is very easy and it is very important!

A simple act of kindness can turn anyone's day around. So when you see someone at school, the state fair or junior nationals who isn't having much fun, be nice to them! It's easy. You never know how many friends you can make just by being nice. And if you ever feel left out or are having a bad day, someone will return the favor to you, and you will be thankful you were nice to them first.

Being important in life is nice, but being nice is much more important. The rewards you gain from being nice might not be measurable, but they will make you feel very good about yourself and they will help you surround yourself with nice people.

Put a smile on your face and be nice to the people around you, you will be thankful for it later.

Be nice! It's important.