

LIFE HACKS

The Rules

10 Commandments- Exodus Ch. 20

Romans 7:7 Indeed I would not have known what sin is except through the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, "do not covet.

RULES ARE GIVEN FOR OUR SAFETY AND WELL BEING.....

WITHOUT AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE "WHY"....THE "WHAT" CAN FRUSTRATE US!

The Pharisees memorized the "WHAT" but didn't understand the "WHY"

Matthew 15:7-9 You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you: 8 "These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. 9 They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men."

So many stay away from Christianity BECAUSE IT IS RESTRICTING!

CHRISTIAN RULES: someone puts their faith in Christ:
You can't: drink, smoke, swear, dance, wear make-up, wear earrings, have a tattoo, play cards, watch movies, watch TV, listen to Rock & Roll or have any fun with anything that doesn't bring glory to God!!

OR YOU CAN'T SMOKE, DRINK OR CHEW.....OR RUN WITH THOSE WHO DO!

Isaiah 29:13 The Lord says: "These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is made up only of rules taught by men.

BEING A CHRISTIAN is more about the heart than the rules!

WHEN I GOT MARRIED I SIGNED UP FOR A FEW UNIVERSAL RULES!

-ONE THING: I GAVE UP DATING OTHER WOMEN!

-I CHOOSE not to do things that are disloyal to my wife, not because I am just following RULES.....I don't do these things because

-I love her heart and want to protect it!!

Joseph had an incredible relationship with God:
.....In Gen 39.....he was being seduced by his boss's wife.

HIS RESPONSE:

Genesis 39:9 “how could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God.”

One of My favorite verses..... EXPLAINS THE “WHY” BEHIND THE “WHAT”
Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

WE PLACE RULES AROUND THE ONES WE LOVE!!!

10 COMMANDMENTS GIVEN IN EXODUS 20:

1. You shall have no other gods before Me.
2. You shall not make idols.
3. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
5. Honor your father and your mother.
6. You shall not murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
10. You shall not covet.

WHY??? TO PROTECT RELATIONSHIPS!

- First 4 to PROTECT our relationship with GOD
- Next 6 to PROTECT our relationship with OTHERS!

-LOVE GOD.....LOVE OTHERS!

PAUL Talked a lot about how we should live!

Colossians 3:5-10 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶ Because of these, the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷ You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. ⁸ But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. ⁹ Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

-EVERYTHING THAT WOULD HAVE GOTTEN ME IN TROUBLE AS A KID!

Galatians 5:19-20 The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

DEBAUCHERY-extreme indulgence in sensual pleasures, especially sexual pleasures: behavior involving sex, drugs, alcohol, ect.

SO

- why does the bible say "don't be drunk with wine?"
- why not have promiscuous relationships?
- why not look at pornography?
- why not steal and lie?
- why not slander people?
- why should I not fill my mind with filth?

"OUT OF THE ABUNDANCE OF THE HEART.....THE MOUTH SPEAKS"

WHY:..... I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

THERE ARE DEFINITE LINES PLACED AROUND US FOR OUR PROTECTION!

Dog fence: Underground lines.....sin.....mess with it and you will get zapped!

- The dog is SAFE!
- Don't leave the SAFETY ZONE!

GOD'S RULES ARE THERE TO PROTECT YOUR HEART!

STORY OF SOLOMON:

In the beginning of 1 Kings 3, the Lord asked Solomon to ask for anything that he wanted!

LOOK WHAT HE ASKED FOR!

1 Kings 3:9 So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong.

Proverbs 4:23 "Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life."

-Solomon didn't listen to his own advice

INTERESTING HISTORY: In Deuteronomy 17 Moses tells of explicit instructions that God gave about picking a king for Israel.

Deuteronomy 17:15-17 Be sure to appoint over you the king the LORD your God chooses. He must be from among your own brothers. Do not place a foreigner over you, one who is not a brother Israelite. ¹⁶The king, moreover, must not acquire great numbers of horses for himself or make the people return to Egypt to get more of them, for the LORD has told you, "You are not to go back that way again." ¹⁷He must not take many wives, or his heart will be led astray. He must not accumulate large amounts of silver and gold.

Rules for the King of Israel:

1. he must not acquire many horses
2. he must not import horses from Egypt
3. he must not take many wives
4. he must not get much gold or silver

2 Chronicles 9:13-28 The weight of the gold that Solomon received yearly was 666 talents, ¹⁴not including the revenues brought in by merchants and traders. Also all the kings of Arabia and the governors of the land brought gold and silver to Solomon. ¹⁵King Solomon made two hundred large shields of hammered gold; six hundred bekas² of hammered gold went into each shield. ¹⁶He also made three hundred small shields of hammered gold, with three hundred bekas² of gold in each shield. The king put them in the Palace of the Forest of Lebanon.

¹⁷Then the king made a great throne inlaid with ivory and overlaid with pure gold. ¹⁸The throne had six steps, and a footstool of gold was attached to it. On both sides of the seat were armrests, with a lion standing beside each of them.

¹⁹Twelve lions stood on the six steps, one at either end of each step. Nothing like it had ever been made for any other kingdom. ²⁰All King Solomon's goblets were gold, and all the household articles in the Palace of the Forest of Lebanon were pure gold. Nothing was made of silver, because silver was considered of little value in Solomon's day. ²¹The king had a fleet of trading ships manned by Hiram's men. Once every three years it returned, carrying gold, silver and ivory, and apes and baboons.

²²King Solomon was greater in riches and wisdom than all the other kings of the earth. ²³All the kings of the earth sought audience with Solomon to hear the wisdom God had put in his heart. ²⁴Year after year, everyone who came brought a gift—articles of silver and gold, and robes, weapons and spices, and horses and mules.

²⁵Solomon had four thousand stalls for horses and chariots, and twelve thousand horses, which he kept in the chariot cities and also with him in Jerusalem. ²⁶He ruled over all the kings from the River to the land of the Philistines, as far as the border of Egypt. ²⁷The king made silver as common in Jerusalem as stones, and cedar as plentiful as sycamore-fig trees in the foothills. ²⁸Solomon's horses were imported from Egypt and from all other countries.

RECAP: Rules for the King of Israel: Deuteronomy 17

1. he must not acquire many horses
2. he must not import horses from Egypt
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Things King Solomon did:

1. 2 Chronicles 9:25 Solomon had 12000 horses and 4000 stalls for chariots
2. 2 Chronicles 9:28 Solomon's horses were imported from Egypt
3. 2 Chronicle 9:13 Solomon received 666 talents (25 tons) of Gold yearly
4. 1 Kings 11:13 Solomon had 700 wives

1 Kings 11:3-4 He had seven hundred wives of royal birth and three hundred concubines, and his wives led him astray. As Solomon grew old, his wives turned his heart after other gods, and his heart was not fully devoted to the Lord his God, as the heart of David his father had been.

THE RESULT.....

1 Kings 11:9 says, "The Lord became angry with Solomon because his heart had turned away from the Lord, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice."

NOTICE.....IT IS A HEART ISSUE!

IT'S A SLOW FADE!!!!

-Most great Falls DON'T happen with ONE decision!

GO BACK TO SOLOMON'S FAMOUS ADVICE:

Proverbs 4:23 "Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life."

SEARCH YOUR HEART: (LIKE DAVID DID)

Psalm 139:23-24 Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

RESPONSE:

- 1) SEARCH MY HEART
- 2) ARE YOU WALKING ON A SLIPPERY SLOPE?
- 3) LEAD ME IN THE EVERLASTING WAY!

COMMUNION:

1 Corinthians 11:23-28 For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.