

Seven Rules of Life

submitted by Bill Crews

1. **The mire rule: destroy what you can't use.** "If I can't have it, no one else will."
 - Ezekiel 34:18 — trampling down good pasture and fouling the water.
 - Matthew 23:13 — would not enter the kingdom, nor suffer others to enter.
 - 3 John 9-11 — Diotrephes was such a man.
2. **The clay rule: eat, drink and be merry.**
 - Luke 12:16-20 — the rich farmer
 - 1 Corinthians 15:32 — if no resurrection, then live this way.
 - Isaiah 22:13-13 — Judah told to mourn, but made merry instead.
3. **The iron rule: might makes right.** "What's thine is mine; I'll take it."
 - Luke 10:30 — the robbers who waylaid the traveler.
 - 1 Samuel 2:15-17 — Eli's sons: "Give us what we want or we will take it."
 - 2 Samuel 12:4 — the rich man of Nathan's parable.
4. **The brass rule: legal right.** "What's mine is mine; I'll keep it."
 - 1 Samuel 25:11 — Nabal refused to help David, though David had helped him.
 - Luke 10:31-32 — the priest and Levite in the parable of the Good Samaritan.
 - Matthew 19:21-22 — the rich young ruler.
5. **The silver rule: Do not unto others as you would not have them to unto you.**
 - Matthew 5:38 — some thought the law implied this.
 - Matthew 5:46 — love those who love you.
 - Matthew 25:25 — the one-talent servant gained nothing and lost nothing.
6. **The golden rule: do unto others as you would have them do unto you.**
 - Matthew 5:43-45 — so love your enemies and do them good.
 - Luke 10:33-35 — the good Samaritan: "what's mine is thine; I'll share it."
 - Romans 12:17 — *"Taking thought for things honorable in the sight of all men."*
7. **The diamond rule: in honor preferring others.**
 - Genesis 13:8-12 — Abraham's offer to Lot.
 - Romans 12:10 — *"in honor preferring one another."*
 - Philippians 2:3-4 — *"each counting other better than himself."*

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