

Some Things I Was Taught

by Bill Crews

When I was a boy, here are some things I was taught:

1. **To love and reverence God and to respect His word.** (Matthew 22:37 – to love God with all the heart, soul and might); 1 John 3:5 – this is the love of God that we keep His commandments; Hebrews 12:28 – we are to serve God with reverence and godly fear).
2. **To respect the Bible as the Word of God.** (2 Timothy 3:14-17 – every Scripture is inspired of God and will furnish the man of God completely unto every good work; 2 Peter 1:20-21 – no prophecy of Scripture ever originated with men, but holy men spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit).
3. **To honor Jesus as the Son of God** (Matthew 16:16-17 – Peter confessed Jesus to be the Christ, the Son of the living God) and to obey Him (John 14:15 – Jesus said, *"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments"*; Hebrews 5:8-9 – Jesus is the author of eternal salvation to those who obey Him).
4. **To put the Lord and spiritual things first** (Matthew 6:33 – we are to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness with the promise that the necessities of life will be provided for us; Matthew 10:37 – we are to love the LORD more than we love father or mother, brother or sister, wife and children).
5. **To show respect for my elders** by saying, "Ma'am" and "Sir" or "Yes, ma'am," and "Yes, sir, rather than "yeah" and "nah." (1 Peter 5:5 – *"Likewise, ye younger, be subject unto the elder."*)
6. **To respect the property of others and public property.** I was forbidden to deface or destroy that property. Guess who would have to pay to clean or restore or replace it? I would!
7. **To respect the rights of others and not to be rude, or obnoxious or too noisy** (with talk, play or music).
8. **To be honest and to never lie to or deceive others.** (Ephesians 4:25 – put away falsehood and speak truth one with another; Colossians 3:9 – lie not one to another; Revelation 21:8 – among those who will have their part in the lake of fire and brimstone, are all liars).
9. **To keep my promises or the word that I had given; to fail to do so was much like lying** (Ephesians 4:25; Ecclesiastes 5:5-6).
10. **To pay off my debts and to take care of and return borrowed items – to fail to do was the same as stealing.**
11. **To clean up any messes that I had made, to try to correct any wrongs that I had done, and to apologize to those whom I had mistreated.**
12. **To expect others to trust me only if I had proved myself worthy of their trust.**
13. **To be impartial and fair to all**, young and old, male and female, rich and poor, educated and illiterate, and of whatever race they were.
14. **To be grateful to God and man for favors done or blessings bestowed.**
15. **To be compassionate, kind and considerate.** To help others who needed any help – even my enemies.
16. **To be unselfish and to go through life doing things for others rather than expecting others to be always doing things for me.**
17. **To live within my means and not to cultivate desires and tastes that would lead me to think I was better than others** or cause me to never be content with what I had.

MY PARENTS WERE CHRISTIANS, AND THESE PRINCIPLES ARE ALL TAUGHT IN GOD'S WORD.