

Don Cram's 100 Rules of Life

1. Prefer nothing whatever to Christ.
2. Think about how you would expect to be treated if God is loving and forgiving, and then treat others exactly that way.
3. Relieve the lot of the poor, clothe the naked, visit the sick, protect the powerless, and console the sorrowing.
4. Stability, obedience, and conversion of life come through prayer, study, and work.
5. Learning and teaching, learning and teaching, learning and teaching is my life.
6. Stay humble; you can't fall off the floor.
7. Mediocrity imitates; excellence innovates.
8. The more you believe you are invincible, the moreincible you become.
9. That which is most difficult to do in life is usually the right thing to do.
10. The only way to make a silk purse from a pig's ear is to begin with a pig that has silk ears.
11. The more you need a loan, the less likely it will be that you can get one.
12. The early worm gets eaten.
13. Choose your friends wisely, for you will become like them.
14. If everything is coming your way, you are on the wrong side of the road.
15. Life is best understood backwards.
16. The worst time to make resolutions is in the middle of winter about January first.
17. The fastest way to find correct information on the internet is not to do a Google search but just to post incorrect information in social media.
18. We could not do any worse if Congress was populated by a random lottery of all United States citizens of all ages, with the restriction that they could not be reelected or paid.
19. Every May, something in the evaporative cooler on the roof will fail, a different something every year.
20. Every law passed by Congress and every regulation established by the Executive Branch will have remarkably unexpected consequences.
21. Those who have the highest morals least understand the problems.
22. The one who snores will fall asleep first.
23. Only trust advice from those who stand to lose as much as you do if things go south.

24. Listening closely to yourself will help you talk less.
25. Waste no time worrying about what others think of you because they are too busy worrying about what you think of them.
26. The habit that is easiest to perform is the hardest to change.
27. The other line or lane moves faster, unless you change to it.
28. The trip to is always longer than the trip back.
29. The best drivers are those who drive like you do.
30. In the tyranny of the urgent, urgency is inversely proportional to importance.
31. Always hire an expensively dressed attorney; never buy from an expensively dressed salesperson.
32. One hundred percent of all motorists regard themselves as above average drivers.
33. Any problem can be solved given enough time and money; you will never have enough time and money.
34. Fat expands to fill even the baggiest clothes.
35. It takes less energy to leave something where it is than it takes to put it back where it belongs, but it takes five times as much energy to sort through everything in order to put it away later.
36. If you send me to the store to get four items and add one more as an afterthought, I will forget two of the items.
37. The older I become, the better things used to be.
38. Take half as much luggage and twice as much money.
39. In language study, if you find an aspirated syllable immediately followed by another aspirated syllable, the whole language becomes exasperating.
40. In order to correctly pronounce a word in any Indo-European language if the presence of a vowel followed by a laryngeal (or a semivowel followed by a nasal), mumble.
41. In language learning, the number of exceptions always outnumbers the number of rules.
42. The only way to succeed as a teacher is to never attribute to malice that which can be explained by ignorance alone.
43. If you believe that what someone is trying to tell you is not true, then you will not understand it.
44. If you put in writing your criticism of someone's grammar, you will inevitably include at least one grammatical error.

45. The quality of a paper is inversely proportional to how long you wait to start working on it.
46. The shorter the time between learning something and trying to use it, the less effective you will be.
47. The conclusion should not be the place where you got tired of thinking.
48. The effectiveness of a teacher is directly proportional to the teacher's empathy for each student.
49. It is easier to ask a stupid question than it is to correct a stupid mistake.
50. Nothing you ever learn will go unused.
51. Putting God first and all else will follow is not nearly as easy as it sounds.
52. Keep committees small. Jesus had twelve, and one of them really screwed up.
53. In avoiding a handshake with the pastor, the speed of the parishioner is directly proportional to the distance from the pastor.
54. Church growth is equal to the average arrival rate of new members times the average length of time they stay in the congregation and is directly proportional to the size of the parking lot, but only at first.
55. The speed with which a false rumor travels within a congregation is entirely independent of the size of the congregation or the speed of light.
56. Where orthodoxy is demanded, it consumes all available energy; where orthodoxy is optional, it tends to be forbidden.
57. In a church committee, the time spent discussing any agenda item will be inversely proportional to the amount of the church budget it requires.
58. Each of us specializes in our unique area of weakness.
59. Every denomination becomes preoccupied with the errors it was formed to correct and has an investment in maintaining those errors.
60. Every word of gossip has its unavoidable deleterious effect and can never be taken back.
61. Everything you agree to do at church is easier to get into than get out of.
62. A well-crafted mission statement looks better than a well-crafted solution to the problem.
63. When celebrating at the altar, whatever happens, always look as though it was intended and is part of the liturgy.
64. You can never volunteer to do just one thing.
65. For every action there is an equal and opposite criticism.
66. In order for something to get clean, something else must become dirty.

67. During a church committee meeting, if you have to leave the room to use the bathroom, you will be elected. Wear a diaper.

68. It does absolutely no good to push the end of a rope.

69. The greatest proof that God had fun with creation is that elements with even atomic numbers are more common than those with odd atomic numbers.

70. There is no such thing as an ideal gas.

71. If larger members of a species are generally found in colder environments, then there would be hobbits on the Indonesian island of Flores.

72. Neither Boyle's Law nor the Bernoulli's Principle nor Charles's Law nor Dalton's Law nor Gay-Lussac's Law nor Graham's Law nor Henry's Law is applicable to the hot air generated in arguments. However, Haber's Rule always applies.

73. No, winter does not happen because the Earth is farther from the sun.

74. Only a nineteenth century celibate monk could come up with the laws of genetic inheritance.

75. Electrons actually don't have shells.

76. If you push on something, it resists or falls over.

77. In the chemistry laboratory, if you have no idea what you are doing, do it neatly.

78. Anything really worth doing is worth doing poorly at first.

79. Working twelve hours a day allows you to fall twice as far behind as if you worked eight hours.

80. The final hour you give to a project generates more than half of the problems.

81. The amount of time necessary to complete any task is half-again the amount of time you estimated.

82. The total enthalpy of any organizational change is the same whether done in a series of baby steps or in one fell swoop.

83. Twenty percent of the participants produce eighty percent of the benefit. Increasing the number of participants will reduce the amount of benefit produced.

84. The weaker your support for your point, the more elaborately you should state it.

85. Paying close attention to a task you normally do without thinking always impairs performance.

86. In any argument, the pitch of voice will be inversely proportional to the verity of the point being made.

87. Studying a problem closely enough will often reveal that you are part of the problem.

88. The advantage of teamwork is that you have others to blame.

89. Delegate the truly difficult task to a lazy person who will find a simpler way to do it.
90. The optimist, falling from the roof and passing friends inside the third story window waves and shouts that everything is OK so far.
91. The later you are, the longer everything will take.
92. If the airplane you are in arrives late, then the flight you must transfer to will have left right on time.
93. Any screw when dropped will fall into the most inaccessible area of the project.
94. If your solution to a problem doesn't work, look for the part you thought was unimportant.
95. The likelihood that a nail will bend is inversely proportional to the number of nails you have at hand.
96. Whatever is sore will start colliding with things unusually often.
97. When you finally decide you really must use the water-flossing device, the water reservoir will be empty.
98. Serving beverages on an air liner causes turbulence.
99. Nothing you do can ever be a complete failure because it can always serve as a bad example to those around you.