



Four C's to Be

Considerate

Think of others; see them as more important.

Build up one another.

Have regard for another's preferences and judgments.

Not demanding others to be "perfect-people."

Communicative

Be in touch with one another.

Encourage one another (positive reinforcement).

Exhort each other.

Restore others who are overtaken in a fault.

Courteous

Courtly manners to all, including the "least of the brethren."

Thoughtful and kind.

Includes:

Humble, modest, gentle, impartial, mature.

Cooperative

By being united.

By being peaceful.

By being active.

By not complaining.

By not finding fault.

By not free-loading.

By not insisting "my way or else."

Truth Is Truth No Matter Who Says It

What is important is what is said: words of truth. Truth stands on its own.
I happened to see this posted on a wall in a doctor's office.
True statements that "hit the nail on the head."

TWELVE WAYS TO MAKE DELINQUENTS

1. Begin with infancy to give the child everything he wants. In this way he will grow up to believe the world owes him a living.
2. When he picks up bad words, laugh at him. This will make him think he is cute. It will also encourage him to pick up "cuter" phrases that will blow off the top of your head later.
3. Never give him any spiritual training. Wait until he is 21 and then let him "decide for himself."
4. Avoid the use of the word "wrong." It may develop a guilt complex. This will condition him to believe later, when he is arrested for stealing a car, that society is against him and he is being picked on.
5. Pick up everything he leaves lying around—books shoes, clothes. Do everything for him so he will be experienced in throwing all responsibility on others.
6. Let him read any printed matter he can get his hands on. Be careful that the silverware and drinking glasses are sterilized, but let his mind feast on garbage.
7. Quarrel frequently in the presence of your children. In this way he will not be too shocked when the home is broken up later.
8. Give a child all the spending money he wants. Never let him earn his own way. Why should he have things as tough as you had them.
9. Satisfy his every craving for food, drink and comfort. See that every sensual desire is gratified. Denial may lead to harmful frustration.
10. Take his side against neighbors, teachers and policemen. They are all prejudiced against your child.
11. When he gets in serious trouble, apologize for yourself by saying, "I never could do anything with him."
12. Prepare for a life of grief. You will be likely to have it.

– Prepared by the Houston Police Department



WORD STUDY

enhance your
Bible knowledge



Verse Numbering: Boon or Bane?

The Bible is a marvelous and inspired book. It has been translated into many languages and many English versions are available. To make it easy for the readers to find certain passages or statements, the text has been divided into chapters and verses. This makes it very convenient for referencing a particular passage.

In doing so, it has opened the door to what I call “verse plucking.” That is, one may find a numbered verse and take it out of context. Then draw ideas or teachings based on the isolated verse. The findings are not found or supported by any other verse or verses in the Bible. And often, they conflict with other passages. The ideas “found” in isolated verses have been championed by many and have convinced others that what they say the verse teaches is Bible truth.

I have coined a phrase, **“When you find a verse, put it back where you found it.”** The context is so important in determining what is being said. Quite often when the verse is put back in its setting the things “found” in the isolated verse are determined to be the product of a fertile imagination or personal biases.

Everyone who teaches or presents lessons based on the Bible must be very careful when connecting individual verses found in various passages in the Bible. The teacher must be sure that each verse referenced clearly supports what is said in the context.

You know, sometimes it’s best to read the Bible without paying attention to the numbers.

Impressed

A young man, who had moved to another state to complete his education, returned home one summer. He said he was working on his thesis for his Masters degree in his field of study. Before he moved away, he had on occasion given a talk or sermon, so he was asked to speak at the next Sunday evening service.

That Sunday evening he presented a most impressive lesson. I was very much impressed. But not in the usual sense. It wasn’t the content of the lesson that impressed me, it was his vocabulary. He used words that I had never heard before.

I spent most of my time trying to understand what those words might mean. I tried to write down the words so I could look up the definitions later, but I wasn’t sure how to spell the words.

LESSON LEARNED

On that occasion, something made an indelible impression upon me. As a preacher I must speak in terms easily grasped and use words that are understood by the audience. I need to impress the listeners with the greatness of the message, not my vocabulary.

A passage of Scripture found in First Corinthians chapter 2, came to mind:

“And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God. For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.”



Ponder This

Neutrality

To Stand Against Nothing Is to Stand For Nothing!

The trend to view every activity as right and nothing as wrong is a one-way ticket to ruin. It's also a flagrant act of hypocrisy. Outrageous acts of terror, murder, kidnaping, rape, etc., are condemned with a vengeance. What has been done is to expand what is acceptable under the guise of "diversity". Don't buy into the "no blame game"! Don't be taken in by such foolishness so as to engage in what is self-destructing and God-forbidden.

"The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like . . ."

Galatians 5:19-21 NIV

Stand against something!

"Who will stand up for me against evildoers? Who will take his stand for me against those who do wickedness?"

Psalms 94:16

Stand for something!

So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter.

2 Thessalonians 2:15 NIV

Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.

1 Corinthians 16:13



Musings of a Preacher

Good Question

I received a telephone call from a friend who lived in another town. He said there were some members in the church where he attends who have doubts about a member (name withheld) teaching the high school class on Sunday morning. It seems that the man never attends the Wednesday night service. His wife and children attend regularly, but not him. Some see this as a disqualification because he is not "faithful" in his attendance.

I asked, "Why doesn't he attend the Wednesday night class? What's the problem?"

My friend answered, "The reason he doesn't attend is that he works the swing shift."

I replied, "Since his work hours conflict with the time of the Bible study, why not move the time of the study to the morning hours, so he can attend and be 'faithful' in his attendance, and 'qualify' to teach the class?"

He replied, "Good question."

Good question, indeed!

**Know someone who would like to receive
FYC? Have them send a request to
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F.Y.C. is a monthly publication by Ron Adams.

Articles written by others are duly noted.

Bible references are from the NASB except where another translation is referenced.

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