

Sky Above, Sand Below, Peace Within



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Part 2: Protect Your Peace

We should wake up every morning and believe that we're going to have a great day, God is going to bless us, and God is going to direct our steps.

But, at the same time, we have to realize that everything may not go as planned. Every person may not treat us right. Our plans may not stay on schedule. If we're only going to enjoy the day if everything goes perfect, we're setting ourselves up for disappointment.

Rule Number One

Always carry your _____ .

At the start of the day, make a decision that, no matter what happens, you're not going to get upset. No matter what someone says to you, you're not going to get offended. No matter how many delays, disappointments, or bad breaks come your way, you're not going to be sour. You've already decided to stay in peace.

Rule Number Two

You are responsible for _____.

Your happiness is not someone else's responsibility. Too often, we're counting on others to keep us cheered up and feeling good about ourselves. That's putting too much pressure on the people in our life. Nobody can keep us fixed up except God. Don't go to other people for what only God can give.

Rule Number Three

Tap into _____ to retain your peace.

Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Don't let your heart be troubled or afraid." (John 14:27)

You don't have to let the same old things keep upsetting you. Try a new approach. Decide ahead of time that you're going to stay in peace, and you're going to tap into that power – the power of Jesus – to remain calm.

There may be people you see every day who get on your nerves. The good news is, you're in control. They can't make you unhappy unless you allow it. Jesus said, "Don't let them." They can't make you frustrated; it's your choice. Jesus has already offered to let you tap into His power. He will give you His peace.

Rule Number Four

Only fight _____ .

One of the reasons that David did great things with his life is he knew which battles to fight. If he had started arguing with Eliab, he would have gotten distracted, wasted time, and maybe never gotten around to fighting Goliath.

"Avoiding a fight is a mark of honor." (Proverbs 20:3)

"Lord, take control of what I say. Help me keep my lips sealed."
(Psalm 141:3)

Rule Number Five

Get good at _____ .

Don't ever fight with small-minded people. Don't let them steal your peace.

This is what Saul did: "They despised Saul and refused to bring him gifts, but Saul ignored them." (1 Samuel 10:27)