

The 10 "rules" of my father:

1. Do not try to make everybody happy!

You never achieve that. Even Christ did not satisfy everybody. Whatever right you do, there are still people who label you wrong. When Christ casted out demons, few around him called him a "senior demon". For E.g. If you construct a road using gold with purity of 18 carat, some people will still comment on you and say that you should have used 22 carat! When you use 22 they still say you should have used 24. When you use 24 carat pure gold, they say you better have used platinum! Humans always have got something to say, forget that and be accountable to GOD, good people and your pure conscience. You are not better than Christ, He did not satisfy everybody equally; you also do not try that! It is a futile exercise against a natural law, do not try to change it, you better change your view to humans...

2. No mistakes!

As a child, if you are healthy, well fed, there is electricity, books, table and chair; you have to always stand first in your class! No way to get any mistake in examinations.

3. Do not let/get your baby born in a rented house!

You both (your brother) were not born in a rented house. I hate renting a house; you must have your own! Build your own house before you bring a child to this world!

4. If you stand for a reason be prepared to stand alone like a tall and strong tree.

If you fall, fall like a seed and grow again to fight back. Never give up! Do not classify people as enemies. Wait until the enemy classifies itself as your enemy. Patience is always a rule! It is very easy to know who is who with patience. You can postpone a fight, but never forget following your enemies once they manifest as so. Remember that there is a lot of fight in life!

5. Consider your younger brother as your only true friend! That is why you are only "two".

People do not understand that I raised you differently and I count each of you as 4 strong guys.

6. Jesus and David have to be your model and examples, always read their stories and decisions!

Respect your leaders, be polite and do your job. When necessary be extra-hero! Fear no body!

7. Hard work is the policy (not heavy work)!

Always you have to go an extra mile. When your contestants sleep, you wake up and read, think, work, write.... Always remember that the harder you work and succeed, the more "enemies" you shall have. King Solomon has told us this natural law. Do not be surprised by the number of your enemies. As was for King David, their number may outnumber the number of your hairs. You know the secret? Because you are too busy, you do not have time to think about them, but since

they have nothing to work they have ample time to think about you and to plan badly upon you. But always remember that the GOD of David and Joshua is your savior!

8. Talk to your wife!

Love her and raise your children better than I raised you so that they can have a better life.

Never quarrel with her, otherwise you lose power, strength and courage. Respect and submit to her, she is usually right!

9. Do not abandon your country!

This is your country and you can prosper as much as you want being here. Go abroad to get more education, not to live forever. Come back. If you have to be an American, you initially must have been born in the US land and not here! You are Ethiopian because you have to be so. Why change it? God, who never makes mistakes, made you an Ethiopian and never change it. Be proud of it! Someday this country will rise up and shine, when the world uses and exhausts its natural resource, we will start using ours. It is waiting for you!

10. Do not forget your parents! Tell this also to your children.