

## **RULES BEHIND THE RULES: the many complicating and complicated factor of morals and ethics:**

### **(A). Ideas / slogans / clichés**

- **If it makes you happy, it can't be that bad**
- **As long as we love each other**
- **Everyone else is doing it**
- **As long as you **speak** / **tell** YOUR**
- **Follow your heart/dreams**
- **The heart wants what the heart wants**
- **As long as both are consenting adults**
- **As long as we both / all give consent**
- **If it makes us (all of us / our group) happy**
- **I've got to be true to me/myself**

**Psalm 73:15** If I say, I will speak thus; Behold, I should offend against the generation of thy children.

- **Be authentic / true to yourself**
- **I'm OK, you're OK, and that's OK, OK???**
- **Tolerance is the highest and ultimate value/virtue**
- **Only intolerance cannot be tolerated**
- **Obey your thirts**
- **There is no "one size fits all!"**
- **You are worth it**
- **Pamper yourself!**
- **You deserve it**
- **You deserver a break today**
- **That just the way I am**

### **(B). Fallen, human nature**

**Jeremiah 17:9** The **heart** (לֵב) is deceitful (שָׁרָר) above all things, and desperately wicked: **who can know it?**

**James 1:13** Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: **James 1:14** **But** every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. **James 1:15** Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

**Matthew 15:18** But those things which proceed out of the mouth **come forth from the heart**; and they defile the man. **Matthew 15:19** **For out of the heart** proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: **Matthew 15:20** These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man.

**Colossians 3:5** **Mortify** (Νεκρώσατε) therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, **uncleanness** (ἀκαθαρσίαν), **inordinate affection** (πάθος), **evil concupiscence** (ἐπιθυμίαν κακήν), and **covetousness, which is idolatry**:

**1 Peter 2:11** Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, **abstain from fleshly lusts** ( ), which war against the soul;

**Galatians 5:16** This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

**Galatians 5:17** **For** the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: **and** these are contrary the one to the other: **so that** ye cannot do the things that ye would. **Galatians 5:18** But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

**Hebrews 3:13** **But exhort one another** daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be **hardened through the deceitfulness** of sin.

### **What does our FHN mean?**

- **The propensity for wrong / evil / sin**
- **Desires for other than the good and right → follow your heart???**
- **Not as originally designed intended**

- Desires / passions / lusts that are not reasons but are **more like** a tsunami, an earthquake, a tornado, or a hurricane
- Desires that we either put to death or they will put us to death
- Kept under control or gets out of control
- We control them or they control us
- Often unknown
- Often not understood
- Self-destructive
- Highly addictive
- Conflicting & contradictory desires...

## C. Love-based!

**Mark 12:28** And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, **Which is the first commandment of all?** **Mark 12:29** And Jesus answered him, **The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: Mark 12:30** And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: **this is the first commandment. Mark 12:31** And the second is like, namely this, **Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.** There is none other commandment greater than these.

**Romans 13:6** For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. **Romans 13:7** Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour. **Romans 13:8** Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: **for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. Romans 13:9** For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is **briefly comprehended (ἀνακεφαλαιοῦται) in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. Romans 13:10** Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

**Galatians 5:13** For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. **Galatians 5:14** For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

**Leviticus 19:18** Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but **thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD.**

**Leviticus 19:34** But the stranger that dwelleth with you shall be unto you **as one born among you, and thou shalt love him as thyself; for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.**

**1 Corinthians 10:24** Let no man seek his own, but every man another's wealth.

**1 Corinthians 10:33** Even as I please all men in all things, not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved.

**1 John 4:19** We love him, because he first loved us.

**2 Corinthians 5:13** For whether we be beside ourselves, it is to God: or whether we be sober, it is for your cause. **2 Corinthians 5:14** **For the love of Christ constraineth us;** because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:

## 4. Fleshed-out!

**Proverbs 13:20**

He that walketh with wise men shall be wise:  
But a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

**1 Corinthians 4:16** Wherefore I beseech you, **be ye followers (μιμηταί) of me.**

**1 Corinthians 11:1** Be ye **followers (Μιμηταί μου γίνεσθε, καθώς κἀγὼ χριστοῦ) of me, even as I also am of Christ.**

**1 Thessalonians 1:6** And ye became **followers (μιμηταί) of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:**

**1 Thessalonians 2:14** For ye, brethren, became **followers (μιμηταί) of the churches of God which in Judaea are in Christ Jesus: for ye also have suffered like things of your own countrymen, even as they have of the Jews:**

**2 Thessalonians 3:7** For yourselves know how ye ought **to follow (μιμῆσθαι)** us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you;

**2 Thessalonians 3:9** Not because we have not power, but to make ourselves an **ensample (μιμῆσθαι)** unto you to follow us.

**Hebrews 6:12** That ye be not slothful, but **followers (μιμηταὶ)** of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

**Hebrews 13:7** Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith **follow (μιμῆσθε)**, considering the end of their conversation.

## **Morals / ethics / morality is easier to follow if we see it fleshed-out / lived-out!**

**Proverbs 13:4** The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing: But the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.

**Proverbs 20:4** The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; Therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing.

**Proverbs 19:15** Slothfulness casteth into a deep sleep; And an idle soul shall suffer hunger.

**Proverbs 19:24** A slothful man hideth his hand in his bosom, And will not so much as bring it to his mouth again.

**Proverbs 26:13** The slothful man saith, There is a lion in the way; A lion is in the streets.

**Proverbs 26:14** As the door turneth upon his hinges, So doth the slothful upon his bed.

**Proverbs 26:15** The slothful hideth his hand in his bosom; It grieveth him to bring it again to his mouth. **Proverbs 26:16** The sluggard is wiser in his own conceit Than seven men that can render a reason.

**Proverbs 6:6** Go to the ant, thou sluggard; Consider her ways, and be wise: **Proverbs 6:7** Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler,

**Proverbs 6:8** Provideth her meat in the summer, And gathereth her food in the harvest. **Proverbs 6:9** How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? When wilt thou arise out of thy sleep?

**Proverbs 6:10** Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, A little folding of the hands to sleep: **Proverbs 6:11** So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, And thy want as an armed man.

### **How do you learn...?**

- **Respect for women**
- **Hard work**
- **Honesty**
- **Thrift**
- **Love of country**
- **Treating people with respect & dignity**
- **Being on time**
- **Marriage**
- **Sex outside of marriage**
- **Keep your word!**