THE SEVEN BASIC RULES OF PROBLEM SOLVING

1 Dealing with problems properly always takes more time than we think; factor in plenty of time.

2 Question #1: Who is responsible to solve the problem?

3 Question #2: With whom is the problem?

4 Question #3: Is the nature of the problem RELATIONAL, CONCEPTUAL, and/or EXECUTIONAL (diagram the problem).

5 Learn how to recognize problems that are outside your sphere.

6 If possible, build a balanced council to help solve problems.

7 "Unsolvable problems" are often a sign to readdress a problem that was improperly solved in the past.

Gostrategic

A CHECKLIST FOR CHRISTIAN ETHICS

**Christian ethics establishes trustworthiness in everything we do.
It always honors God's Word and reveals His ways.**

1. RESPECT is the capstone of basic Christian ethics! It is a spiritual thing, and people will know if it is genuine or phony.

2. Always communicate HONESTLY and TRUTHFULLY in all situations. Do not tolerate untruthfulness in any associate you are working with or relating to.

3. VALUE all people—whether they are family, employees, vendors, or neighbors—as creations of God, each with a unique destiny to fulfill. Remember, whatever you want for yourself, want for them with the same intensity.

4. Always be POLITE. No one has an obligation to work with, serve, or be with you. Say please and thank you often.

5. Model a BALANCED LIFE of work, rest, family activities, recreation, and Sabbath.

6. Be FAIR in your financial agreements.

7. Christianity is NOT a rule book. Religion turns everything into rules, so be careful of "religious" ethics! Religion is the enemy of life with God.

8. The foundation of Christian ethics is HONESTY and INTEGRITY.

9. When you are facing a decision and have a direction in mind, ask yourself the following QUESTIONS (if you can't come to peace, then continue in ethical reflection until you do):

   ❑ Am I relationally right or just technically right?

   ❑ Is it consistent with God's Word?

   ❑ Is it consistent with God's ways?

   ❑ Do I want the same thing for my neighbor or work associate that I want for myself?

   ❑ Is this decision based in biblical and Kingdom reality, not just an "I'm going to win" reality?

   ❑ Can I identify the biblical principles upon which the decision is based?

   ❑ Have I heard the voice of God in my reflections?

   ❑ Have I "embraced the cross?"

   ❑ Will this decision please Jesus?

gostrategic

STRATEGIC RESOURCE TRAINING