

Book of Dudes

(Owner's Manual for Guys)

Simplified Version

Life Lessons of Old Testament Dudes

1. We should not blame others for our faults ~ Adam
2. Ours sins have far greater implications than we realize ~ Adam
3. God recognizes the innocent person and sooner or later punishes the guilty ~ Abel
4. Anger is not necessarily a sin, but actions motivated by anger can be sinful. Anger should be the energy behind good action, not evil action. ~ Cain
5. What we offer to God must be from the heart; the best we are and have ~ Cain
6. The consequences of sin may last a lifetime ~ Cain
7. A man may be faithful, but his sinful nature always travels with him ~ Noah
8. God does not always protect us from trouble, but cares for us in spite of it ~ Noah
9. God wants us to do more than drift through life ~ Lot
10. Patience often brings rewards ~ Isaac
11. Playing favorites is sure to bring family conflict ~ Isaac
12. Consequences are important to consider when making decisions ~ Esau
13. Security does not lie in the accumulation of goods ~ Jacob
14. Those who set out to use people will eventually find themselves used ~ Laban
15. What matters is not so much the events or circumstances of life, but your response to them ~ Joseph
16. Public and private integrity must be the same, or one will destroy the other ~ Reuben
17. Punishment for sin may not be immediate, but it is certain ~ Reuben
18. Procrastination often makes matters worse ~ Judah
19. God sometimes does his greatest work through frail people ~ Moses
20. The very skills that make a good team player sometimes also makes a poor leader ~ Aaron
21. Majority opinion is not an accurate measurement of right and wrong ~ Caleb
22. If we are discontented with what we have, we may lose it without gaining anything better ~ Korah
23. Concentrating on our present challenges and responsibilities is the best way to prepare for our future ~ Eleazar
24. Motives are just as important as actions ~ Balaam
25. Your treasure is where your heart is ~ Balaam
26. Effective leadership is often the product of good preparation and encouragement ~ Joshua
27. The persons after whom we pattern ourselves will have a definite effect on us ~ Joshua
28. A person committed to God provides the best model for us ~ Joshua
29. Some conditions call for radical action ~ Ehud
30. God calls in the middle of our present obedience. As we are faithful, he gives us more responsibility ~ Gideon

31. God uses us in spite of our limitations and failures ~ Gideon
32. God expands and uses the abilities He has already built in us ~ Gideon
33. Great strength in one area of life does not make up for great weaknesses in other areas ~ Samson
34. Heroes simply do the right thing at the right time, whether or not they realize the impact their action will have ~ Boaz
35. Never take lightly the impact you may have on your children ~ Jesse
36. True friends always think of the other person, not just themselves ~ Jonathan
37. Parents need to discipline their children responsibly ~ Eli
38. The kind of person we are is more important than anything we might do ~ Samuel
39. God wants obedience from the heart, not mere acts of religious ritual ~ Saul
40. Obedience always involves sacrifice, but sacrifice is not always obedience ~ Saul
41. God wants to make use of our strengths and weaknesses ~ Saul
42. Weaknesses should help us remember our need for God's guidance and help ~ Saul
43. Willingness to honestly admit our mistakes is the first step in dealing with them ~ David
44. Forgiveness does not remove the consequences of sin ~ David
45. Loyalty is one of the strongest parts of courage ~ Jonathan
46. Disobedience to God almost always harms us as well as others ~ Michal
47. We should not be afraid to tell the truth to those we care about ~ Nathan
48. A trustworthy companion is one of God's greatest gifts ~ Nathan
49. The father's mistake are often reflected in the lives of his children ~ Absalom
50. A smart man gets a lot of advice; a wise man evaluates the advice he gets ~ Absalom
51. Even brilliant leaders need guidance ~ Joab
52. Greatness is often inspired by the quality and character of leadership ~ David's Mighty Men
53. Even a small force of able and loyal dudes can accomplish great feats ~ David's Mighty Men
54. Effective leadership can be nullified by an ineffective personal life ~ Solomon
55. Knowing what actions are required of us means little without the will to do those actions ~ Solomon
56. We are never closer to defeat than in our moments of greatest victory ~ Elijah
57. We are never as alone as we may feel; God is always there ~ Elijah
58. The choice of a mate will have a significant effect on life ~ physically, spiritually and emotionally ~ Ahab
59. Selfishness, left unchecked, can lead to great evil ~ Ahab
60. One measure of greatness is the willingness to serve the poor as well as the powerful ~ Elisha
61. An effective successor not only learns from his master but also builds upon his master's achievements ~ Elisha
62. Fierce commitment needs control because it can result in recklessness ~ Jehu

63. The past affects your decision and actions today, and these in turn, affect the future. There are lessons to learn and errors to avoid repeating ~ Hezekiah
64. Complete dependence on God yields amazing results ~ Hezekiah
65. Even sweeping outward reforms are of little lasting value if there are no changes in people's lives ~ Josiah
66. Thoughtless decisions often lead to exchanging what is most valuable for something of far less value ~ Rehoboam
67. Every choice we make has real and long-lasting consequences ~ Rehoboam
68. Efforts to follow God's plans and rules yield positive results ~ Asa
69. As helpful or hurtful as others may be, we are individually responsible for what we do ~ Joash
70. Even successful people must acknowledge the role God has for others in their lives ~ Uzziah
71. Lack of thankfulness to God can lead to pride ~ Uzziah
72. God will go a long way to get someone's attention ~ Manasseh
73. A leader needs to provide not only the initial motivation for a project but the continued encouragement necessary to keep the project going ~ Zerubbabel
74. A leader must find his own dependable source of encouragement ~ Zerubbabel
75. The starting place for serving God is a personal commitment to serve Him today, even before knowing what that service will be ~ Ezra
76. The first step in any venture is to pray ~ Nehemiah
77. People under God's direction can accomplish impossible tasks ~ Nehemiah
78. The opportunities we have are more important than the ones we wish we had ~ Mordecai
79. We can trust God to weave together the events of life for our best, even though we may not be able to see the overall pattern ~ Mordecai
80. God has an amazing record for making evil plans backfire on the planners ~ Haman
81. An insatiable thirst for power and prestige is self-destructive ~ Haman
82. Knowing God is better than knowing the answers ~ Job
83. Pain is not always punishment ~ Job
84. One result of experiencing forgiveness is the desire to share that forgiveness with others ~ Isaiah
85. God will not accept empty or insincere worship ~ Jeremiah
86. Endurance is not a common quality. Many people lack the long-term commitment, caring, and willingness that are vital to sticking with a task against all odds ~ Jeremiah
87. Quiet convictions often earn long-term respect ~ Daniel
88. Don't wait until you are in a tough situation to learn about prayer ~ Daniel
89. There is great strength in real friendship ~ Shadrach/Mechach/Abednego
90. It is important to stand with others with whom we share the same convictions ~ S/M/A
91. God can be trusted when we can't predict the outcome ~ S/M/A

92. A leader's greatness is affected by the quality of his advisers ~ Nebuchadnezzar

Life Lessons of New Testament Dudes

93. God honors integrity ~ Joseph

94. Social position is of little importance when God chooses to use us ~ Joseph

95. Feelings are not accurate measures of the rightness or wrongness of an action ~ Joseph

96. The strength of what we believe is measured by how much we are willing to suffer for those beliefs ~ Joseph

97. Jesus consistently accepted people from every level of society ~ Matthew (tax-collector)

98. Enthusiasm has to be backed up by faith and understanding, or it fails ~ Peter (fisherman)

99. It is better to be a follower who sometimes fails than one who fails to follow ~ Peter

100. A life motivated by ambition is usually characterized by self-destruction ~ Herod-Antipas

101. Opportunities to do good usually come to us in the form of choices to be made ~ Herod-Antipas

102. The consequences of evil are so devastating that even small lies and little wrongdoings have serious results ~ Judas Iscariot

103. Evil plans and motives leave us wide open to being used by the adversary for greater evil.

104. Great evil can happen when truth is at the mercy of political ~ Pilate

105. Resisting the truth leaves a person without purpose or direction ~ Pilate

106. Physical limitations do not limit God ~ Zechariah

107. Loss of life is not too heavy a price to pay for following Jesus ~ James

108. Doing what God desires is the greatest possible life investment ~ John the Baptist

109. When we cover selfish motives with spiritual objectives and words, God still sees our intentions ~ Caiaphas

110. Those who realize how much they are loved are able to love much ~ John

111. When God changes a life, he does not take away personality characteristics, but puts them into effective use ~ John

112. Better to doubt out loud than to disbelieve in silence ~ Thomas

113. Striving for excellence in small assignments prepares one for greater responsibilities ~ Stephen

114. Real understanding of God always leads to practical and compassionate actions towards people ~ Stephen

115. Real freedom doesn't come until we no longer have to prove our freedom ~ Paul

116. God reaches out to those that want to know him ~ Cornelius (Roman Officer)

117. Family traits can influence children towards great good or evil ~ Herod Agrippai

118. Personal maturity usually comes from a combination of time and mistakes ~ John Mark

119. Encouragement can change a person's life ~ John Mark
120. Encouragement is one of the most effective ways to help ~ Barnabas
121. Excellence is shown by how we work when no one is noticing ~ Luke
122. The words we leave behind will be a lasting picture of who we are ~ Luke
123. Even the most successful person needs the care of others ~ Luke
124. Youthfulness should not be an excuse for ineffectiveness ~ Timothy
125. Our inadequacies and inabilities should not keep us from being available ~ Timothy