

Methinks that I have become a philosopher, nay a philosophaster* in my old age. I only hope that I can follow that I say. **

1. My biggest frustration is being labeled as something, based only on the way I talk and/or walk.
2. It matters not what others say or think. They do not affect me in any manner.
3. Always remember who and what you are and why you are here.
4. Nobody can make you do anything unless you allow them to.
5. Someone may be **better off** than someone else but no one is **better** than anybody else.
6. Belief in one's self and abilities is called confidence.
7. Be idealistic but also be realistic lest you be disappointed with the outcome.
8. Be prepared to modify your objectives.
9. If you do not know where you are going, you may end up elsewhere.
10. You have fought too long to give up now. You could only hurt yourself; then you'd really be in a world of hurt.
11. Your motto in life should always and ever be "All Ahead Full". (Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead) – Adm. Farragut
12. Do not deviate too far from the beam; you may not make it back. (VOR and/or ADF navigational aids)
13. Strive to keep your word; the only acceptable excuses are if you end up in jail or death in the family, preferably your own.
14. Give your word sparingly but live up to it.
15. Aim for the moon; take a star on your way down, IN CASE you do not make it.
16. Do not be a promising person; stand by your word. Be a mailman--you should deliver.
17. Your word should be as good as gold which can be taken to the bank.
18. No matter how rich or powerful you become, you still have put your pants on a leg at a time.
19. Always anticipate what must be done so you do not delay anyone.
20. What you do not know will surely hurt you, in more ways than you could imagine.
22. The difficult can be done; the impossible takes a while longer.
22. If you reach the end of your rope, let out a string; if things do not work out, let out a thread.
23. Beware of a loose rope, something might be attached to the other end.
24. Do not start a fight and never ever run away from one.
25. Do not deliberately hurt anyone or anything for your personal gain.
26. Strive to be fair in all your dealings.
27. The end **should never, ever** justify the means.
28. It is always the singer, not the song. A song is ONLY the vehicle.
29. Look at both sides of a coin, they might be the same.
30. It is always darkest before dawn.
31. No matter how noble and true you are, there will be skeptics who will try to prove you wrong.
32. Do not dwell in the "used to" or "cannot". Say instead "in my past life" and "can do".
33. Although failure is a fact of life, it should NEVER, EVER be considered an option.
34. Do it right the first time; you would rarely get another chance.
35. Be a promising individual, but never be a Promise-ing Person if you get my drift.
36. Always say what you mean and mean what you say.
37. Blow your own horn and very loudly because nobody else would ever do it for you.
38. Things are not always what they seem. Use your brain and/or discretion not your emotions.
39. Carry a lot of salt in dealing with others. You never know how much you may have to use, if any.
40. Sow a lot of seeds (of interest) and when these bloom, cultivate only the very best. Those are the most dear and precious to you and usually reciprocal. This not only refers to a flower garden.
41. In every aspect of life, if you do not expect anything and you will not be disappointed.
42. You can only make progress only if you risk sticking your neck out or take calculated risks, not foolish ones.

43. The dumb can be taught Stupidity is a state of being. Nothing can be done for these.
44. What is moral is always legal, but what is legal is not always moral. Morality is the basis of legality; never the other way around.
45. No person is responsible for another, except for your own children under eighteen, though there are many exceptions to this.
46. Abdicate your responsibility only if you cannot do it yourself any longer.
47. Never make somebody else responsible to make you happy and/or content.
48. It is true that you are not your brother's keeper; you must know what he/she may be up to, within reason.
49. Where is the truth if you cannot find it within? (To thine self be true) --Shakespeare.
50. Alas, it is a sad commentary when truth loses because it cannot be proven.
51. Mutual respect is the foundation of any worthwhile relationship.
52. A pat on the back, often enough, low enough and hard enough, but with real love, builds character. (Applies only to small children)-- Mark Twain.
53. Although no person is an island, being alone, for a while, can do wonders for the individual.
54. If you want things done your way, do it yourself.
55. Thoughts and intentions are neither good nor bad, but if acted upon, society would be the judge.
56. Chase a butterfly and it will surely evade you but if you stay still, it **may** alight on you.
57. It is unpleasant now, but in time, you could look back and even laugh at whatever it was that hurt you.
58. The new Golden Rule seems to be: "He who has the gold dictates the rules" which should never be.
59. Sex without love is merely an animal activity but love without sex is illogical.
60. Do not look for the obvious but rather, look for something that is out of place or that does not belong.
61. Promise only what you can or would be willing to deliver.
62. There are only two kinds of people: those who could and those who would not.
63. Do not blame another for what has happened. You placed yourself there, consciously or otherwise.
64. Honesty is always the best policy, but be careful who you are honest to and what you are honest about.
65. If you really love someone or something, set it free; if it returns to you, it was yours from the start.
66. If you do not do it, it will not get done, unless you delegate.
67. Throw in the towel when you have breathed your last, no sooner. Never give up.
68. Do not even think of hurting the one(s) you love in any way.
69. You are never lost, just somewhere else.
70. Unless people have proven themselves, you should always question their intentions.
71. Never chase rainbows. There never were pots of gold at their ends.
72. All our prayers are answered, not on OUR terms, only on HIS.
73. Your past does not matter. The only thing that matters is what you are now and what you will become in the future.
74. The greatest risk of all is not taking one.
75. Always be a skeptic-question ALL information you get but never be a cynic to whom nothing is possible.
76. The only opinion that matters comes from six sources: my echo, my shadow, he who looks back at me from the mirror, me, myself and I.
77. You can be untruthful to anyone on this planet except to yourself and your MAKER.
78. Do not amass worldly goods (money and/or property) unless you can or have the talent for it, since you cannot take it with you. Be content and comfortable with what you have.
79. It has become a matter of expectation that inheritance be left to the ones we love. I feel that it sends a negative message, such as: "You are not smart enough to be able to make this kind of stuff". (Or then again, maybe not). Remember, you cannot take it with you.
80. Never begin a sentence with: "I should have..." or "I could have...." nor should those be your last.
81. Those that want to ... (hide, be found or give, etc.) would.
82. If you feel strongly about something today, be ready to eat crow some other day.
83. There are always "carrots on a stick" in this world. Learn to spot them very quickly lest you get taken advantage of.
84. Never be known as "molasses", which is slow and dense.

86. In the final analysis, it is only you that you can trust.

87. Do not let another control the situation, unless you want to.

* A smart mouth, smart aleck

**There were only 35 in 1991. Some of these are from others, but many are my own. Thoughts had been added over the years as they came to me. There was also an attempt at humor in some of these (tongue-in-cheek, that is.)