

The Rules of the River

Take one rule at a time,
give it one weeks strict attention,
and leave everything else to its ordinary chance.

Rule One:

Boats float for a reason. If you can figure out the reason, you can float too.
The Power of Cause and Effect

Rule Two:

You see dangerous rapids ahead, while I see an exciting ride.
We all see the river not as it is, but as we believe it to be.
The Power of Definition and Belief

Rule Three:

The river is just the river. Any problem that you have is a reflection of your boat.
The Power of Reflection

Rule Four:

Lots to see on the river. If all you see are rapids, you haven't been paying attention.
The Power of Focus and Attention

Rule Five:

Instead of complaining about the wind, you should learn to adjust your sails.
The Power of Strategy

Rule Six:

No such thing as an empty water jug. Air pours in as water pours out.
The Power of Vacuum

Rule Seven:

Rivers carve canyons one rock at a time.
The Power of Process and Growth

Rule Eight:

An innocent may attempt to dry himself midstream, but only a fool blames water for being wet.
The Power of Responsibility

Rule Nine:

Keep the river clean, and you'll always have water.
The Power of Contribution and Compensation

Rule Ten:

Fish swim in schools for a reason.
The Power of Attraction

Rule Eleven:

Water, and everything else, tends to evaporate.
The Power of Entropy

Rule Twelve:

If you want your crew to listen, learn to speak their language.
The Power of Communication and Understanding

Rule Thirteen:

Captains chart courses for their reasons, not yours.
The Power of Persuasion and Influence

Rule Fourteen:

People design their journeys based on the captains they most admire.
The Power of Indirect Effort