

Free Press

Thought for
the weak



with the Rev Preben
Andersen

'Top ten' still has a major influence

I HAVE in my possession a delightful little book with some of the gems children and young people come out with from time to time.

Mine happens to be in Danish, but the quote below could be from the mouth of any 'babe' regardless of nationality and background.

A group of eight-year-old schoolchildren were asked to think about commandments for today, but with more than a fleeting glance of course to the Ten Commandments, and these were just some of the classics they came up with, given in no particular order.

Be as good as you can be before you go and do whatever you want; Listen to what your mother says – and to her tone of voice; if someone hits you, simply turn a deaf cheek and, finally, this one: "Give us today our daily rye bread" (rye bread is a stable diet in my homeland.)

More seriously, perhaps, in 2004/5 ITV commissioned a survey to find out what people saw as their current Ten Commandments, and I give them in reverse order.

Some may surprise you.

10 Protect your family. 9 Never be violent. 8 Look after the vulnerable. 7 Protect the environment. 6 Protect and nurture your children. 5 Do not steal. 4 Be honest. 3 Do not kill. 2 Take responsibility for your actions. 1 Treat others as you would have them treat you.

I can only speak for myself, but if these are really 'the commandments' that a lot of people in our communities today believe in and obey, then I am sure our Father in Heaven will be more than pleased with us. God bless you until next time.