

# CHRISTIAN CHARACTER

What does it mean to you?

Part of the FOG Home Group Bible series by Overseer  
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# Key Scriptures

- **2 Corinthians 5:17;20**

*Therefore if any man be in Christ, He is a new creature; old things are passed away, behold all things are become new.*

*Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ.*

- **Matthew 5:13,14**

*You are the salt of the earth: but if the salt has lost its savour, wherewith shall it be salted.....*

*You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.*

# What is character?

- ‘Character is what you are in the dark’; D L Moody. What do you do when nobody sees?
- It’s a collection of personality traits in our behaviour that show who we are.
- Character is our moral fibre and attitude and affects how we manage our relationships
- Character is not personality
- Character is the display case of what is inside you: thoughts, motives, will, imagination, attitude
- Character is the foundation of our lives and determines what we can become

# What about Christian character?

- Character is the display case of what is inside you: i.e. the Christ who is in us.  
Matthew 12:33-36
- Character is our 'being' and is more important than our 'doing' Colossians 3:23
- Being complete in Christ Colossians 2:10
- Being like Christ Romans 8:29

# Why is character important

Let your  
light shine  
before men  
so that they  
may see your  
good works  
and glorify  
your Father  
in Heaven



# Character Traits



- David and Goliath
- **Confidence** :- is the courage to venture to do what seems difficult
- **Faith** :- trusting in God's power and ability to give you success.
- Phil 4:13 - *I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me*

# Character Traits

9 Character traits enumerated by Paul in **Gal 5:22-23**

But the fruit of the Spirit is:

- love,
- joy,
- peace,
- patience,
- kindness,
- goodness,
- faithfulness,
- gentleness
- and self-control

# Characteristics of a growing Christian

- » Faith
- » Moral Excellence
- » Knowledge
- » Self-control
- » Perseverance
- » Godliness
- » Brotherly kindness
- » Love



# Imparting Good Character to Your Teenager

## Tips:

- 1 Read biographies and classic books, analysing the moral actions of the characters and their consequences.
- 2 Talk about the nature of humanity with your teens.
- 3 Study the Book of Proverbs together.
- 4 Do not overlook moral failures in your teenager: Violent actions, dishonesty, lust, selfishness ...
- 5 Conflict and trials in life are unavoidable. Talk to your teen about handling them gracefully
- 6 Teach your teenager self-awareness so that they can continue the life-long process of developing and practicing good character.
- 7 Help your teenager take advantage of opportunities to develop grit and patience.
- 8 Talk to your teen about how to choose to do the right thing in the face of opposition or suffering.

# Videos

- If you give a little love you get a little love of your own - *“love your neighbour as yourself”* - Matthew 22:39
- Building Character cartoon for kids
- Videos on Character Traits (click on a word): love, confidence, joy, patience, kindness
- Expressions of Character: Locker, Neighbours, Taxi, Basketball

# Further Reading

- » <http://www.discipleshiptools.org/apps/articles/?articleid=37081>
- » <http://rickwarren.org/devotional/english/develop-the-character-of-christ>
- » <https://bible.org/seriespage/3-pursuit-christian-character-2-peter-15-7>
- » <http://graceonlinelibrary.org/home-family/christian-parenting/49-godly-character-qualities/>

# Matthew 12:33-36

» *Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit. O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment*

## Colossians 3:23

» *And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men.*

## Colossians 2:10

» *And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power.*

## Romans 8:29

» *For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren*