

POWER PRINCIPLES THAT MAKE FAMILIES THRIVE

THE POWER OF STRONG CHARACTER

Pastor Rob Carlson • May 7, 2006

Proverbs 12:4--*A wife of noble character is her husband's crown...*

Acts 17:11--*Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the scriptures every day...*

I Corinthians 15:33--*Bad company corrupts good character.*

Proverbs 11:5 (Mess)--*Moral character makes for smooth traveling; an evil life is a hard life.*

Ephesians 4:23-25 (Mess)--*...a life renewed from the inside and working itself into your conduct as God accurately reproduces his character in you. What this adds up to, then, is this: no more lies, no more pretense. Tell your neighbor the truth. In Christ's body we're all connected to each other, after all. When you lie to others, you end up lying to yourself.*

HOW CHRISTIAN CHARACTER IS DEVELOPED

1. _____ IS ROOTED IN _____.

- Chapter 1: _____ See Daniel 1:3-8
- Chapter 3: _____ See Daniel 3:4-6
- Chapter 6: _____ See Daniel 6:6-10

Romans 12:1,2--*Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

2. CORE BIBLICAL VALUES CREATE A _____ OF WHAT GOD SAYS I CAN BE.

- Chapter 1: _____ See Daniel 1:11-14
- Chapter 3: _____ See Daniel 3:16-18
- Chapter 6: _____ See Daniel 6:10

What is your vision for life?

3. VALUES AND VISION BUILD IRON-CLAD _____.

Daniel 3:6--*Whoever does not fall down and worship will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace. See also Daniel 2:20-23, 27-28; 3:16-18; 9:4ff.*

4. CONVICTION PRODUCES _____.

Daniel 2:24--*Then Daniel went to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to execute the wise men of Babylon, and said to him, "Do not execute the wise men of Babylon. Take me to the king, and I will interpret his dream for him." See also Daniel 2:12-14*

5. _____ IS THE RESULT OF _____.

Galatians 5:22,23--*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.*

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SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why is character so important in relationships? What happens when it is compromised? How can it be recovered?
2. Review the points and verses from this lesson. What personal application can you make from this teaching?
3. How can we respect, build, protect, and increase our character? What is God's goal for our individual character?
4. Take some time right now to pray for the needs of those in your small group.