

PERSONAL APPLICATION

- Which part of your character is a reflection of God and which part is not?
- In what current circumstances in your life might God be trying to develop your character?
- Understanding this discussion how does your attitude and perspective change toward your circumstances?
- Are you allowing God to shape and mold your character?

PRAYER

- Ask God for the grace to respond in a godly manner in every circumstance you are going through in life.
- Pray that God will strengthen you and develop more of his character in you.
- Pray that God will mold you and shape you according to his will. Ask for eyes to see God and his purposes in your current situation.

NOTES



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THE ART OF LIVING series



WEEK 5: CHARACTER, PASS IT ON

CONNECT

- What is character? How do you get to know a person's character?
- How is character formed?
- How would you describe your character?

WHAT

“Character, a wise person once said, is what we do when no one is looking. It is not the same as reputation - what other people think of us. It is not the same as success or achievement. Character is not what we have done, but who we are...Character is our world's most pressing need. To the extent that our own characters grow stronger, the world will be a better place.” – *Bill Hybels, 'Who You Are When No One Is Looking'*

"The righteous lead blameless lives; blessed are the children after them."

Proverbs 20:7

1. The definition of character.

"The righteous lead blameless lives..."

Proverbs 20:7

Character is the collection of traits in our personality that make us who we are. Godly character is character lived out of our love, worship, honor, and knowledge of God. Our character should be a reflection of who Jesus is and the result of our relationship with him. The more we walk with Jesus Christ, the more we learn of his character, which, in turn, leads us to live a life that reflects who he is. How would you describe Jesus' Character?

2. The building of our character.

"Until we reach unity in the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching..."

It is God's desire for us to be mature through our faith and knowledge of him so that we can attain the fullness of Christ. The knowledge of character alone will not produce Christ-like character in us. Whenever we choose to respond in a Christ-like manner rather than according to our own natural inclinations, we develop Christ-like character. God allows character-building situations and circumstances like conflict, struggles, temptation, delays, and waiting so that we can learn to respond the way that Christ would. Are you currently in any 'character-building' circumstances? Can you share about it?

3. The result of our character.

"but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commands."

Exodus 20:5

When we walk in obedience to God, we receive his love, favor, and blessing. But when God honors our obedience, he does not stop with us. His promise of love and blessing will also be shown to our children for a thousand generations after us. Our children and many generations to follow will share in the fruits of our obedience. What are some of the ways that good character leads to blessing in our lives?
