

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER

1. The Importance of Character



Introduction

All of us are different! God has given us different personalities – some are easy-going, others serious, some shy, others out-going. But God wants every one of his children to have a good character. He has given us his Son, Jesus, as a model. Unbelievers around us are watching our character. They need to see the character of Jesus in us, then they will believe the message we share. Let's see what these qualities are and how they can be developed in us.

- ◆ Make a list of qualities that you think are important in a person's character.

We will look at two passages from the Bible that show us how these qualities are developed in our lives. The first is in 2 Peter 1:3-11 and the second is in Romans 5:3-5.

- ◆ According to 2 Peter 1:3-4 what is used to develop these qualities in our lives? What does this mean?
- ◆ What will these qualities do in our lives? 2 Peter 1:8-10 Discuss what this means.
- ◆ What else is used to develop these qualities in our lives according to Romans 5:3-5?
- ◆ Have you gone through a great difficulty in your life that has helped change you? Can you share?

Perhaps some of us have gone through trials, while others may not have yet. However we need to understand that God allows his children to experience these things. We live in a wicked world and terrible things happen, but as a believer God has promised that he will work all things together for good. In Romans 8:28-29 we are told that through these things we will be changed to become more like Jesus.

- ◆ We have made a list of qualities that are important to have in our lives. Which one of these character qualities do you want God to help you develop in your life right now?

Conclusion

Perhaps when you grew up you did not have good role models and you are only beginning to follow Jesus. Or perhaps you have been a Christian for many years. Wherever we are on the journey there is further to go! In 2 Peter 1:8 it says we are to possess these qualities in 'increasing measure', and when we do we will 'receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.'