
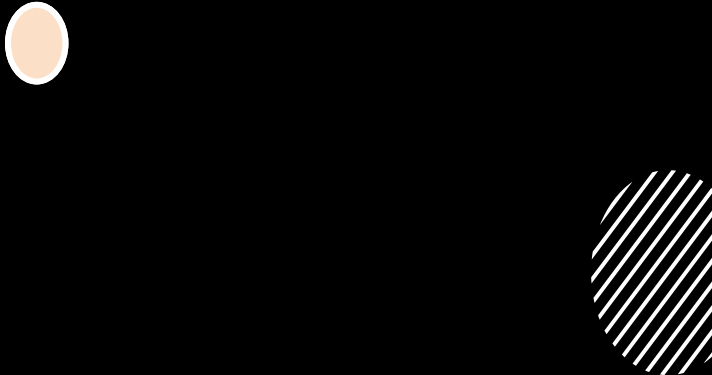


Week 1: Introduction

Christ-Like Character



The Struggle for Character



Every person is made
in God's image
(Genesis 1:27)



Sin damages this
image in unbelievers
(Romans 7:15,18–19)



The world system
promotes selfishness
(Ephesians 2:2–3)



God Shapes Our Character



Honorable character
comes from God



‘Character’ comes from
the Latin word which
means ‘engraved’




Jesus is the exact image of
the Father (Hebrews 1:3,
John 14:9)



God is shaping us into
Christ’s image (Philippians
2:13, Romans 8:29)

Our Inner Image

Everyone has a dominant
inner image of who they are



Formed early in life —
shaped by age 18



God transforms our self-
image (Romans 12:2)

Character Requires Faith

We rely on the Holy Spirit to live like Jesus

Live by the Spirit, not the flesh (Gal 5:16; 1 Thessalonians 2:12)

Christian life: Choose Jesus, then choose the next right thing

Not About Rules

Not just following
new rules or trying
harder

Jesus' standard is
too high to reach
alone

We let God live
through us (John
5:19; 8:28–29;
14:10)



Character Shapes Society

- Society reflects what it values
- True virtue changes us from the inside
- We need God's help to grow in virtue
(Mark Rutland)



Virtue is Strength

Virtue = strength ('virtus')

Power flows through virtue
(Luke 6:19)

God honors the honorable
(Romans 8:36–37; 1 Samuel
2:30)



Reverence = Obedience

Fearing God means living
by His ways

Respecting His Word over
our own ideas or feelings

Obedience shows true
honor for God

Faith + Virtue Work Together

Doing

Doing the right thing requires faith

Trusting

Trusting God to handle the results


Core Christian Virtues

Humility, Faithfulness, Forgiveness,
Courage, Integrity

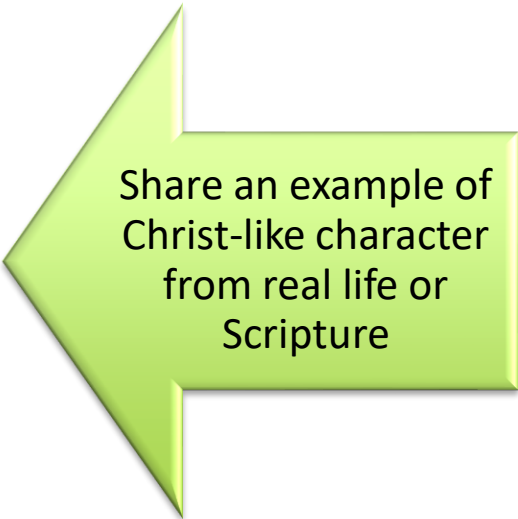
Loyalty, Diligence, Gratitude, Compassion,
Patience

Opposite behaviors destroy your witness
and success

Group Challenge



Choose one virtue
to grow in this week



Share an example of
Christ-like character
from real life or
Scripture