

MAN TO MAN

Week 7: Develop Your Character

Thought

In today's society, it often seems acceptable to do less than your best, pass the buck rather than take the blame, take advantage of other people, not follow through on what you say you will do, or even lie. As men of God, we are called to live excellent lives of discipline, respect, honesty, integrity, dependability, accountability, and honor. Having a strong character means **always** doing the right thing—even when nobody is watching.

Scripture

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me--put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

Philippians 4:8-9

For we aim at what is honorable not only in the Lord's sight but also in the sight of man.

2 Corinthians 8:21 (ESV)

The integrity of the upright guides them, but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them.

Proverbs 11:3 (ESV)

The LORD detests lying lips, but He delights in those who tell the truth.

Proverbs 12:22 (NLT)

Discussion Questions

- Using a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being the lowest, how would you rate the strength of your character? Explain your answer.
- Our character is compromised when our beliefs and actions do not align. What are some areas in which you sometimes compromise your character? What changes do you need to make so that your actions will reflect your beliefs in your home, relationships, workplace, and community?

Action Step

What character traits do you want to possess as a man of God? Take time this week to write them down. Next to each, write down steps you need to take to develop those traits to become the man you know you want to be. Ask someone you know, respect, and trust to help you identify any blind spots you have in your character.

