

Acts 17 Part 1: Christian Character

Character is...

- Moral strength—can distinguish right from wrong *and* deliberately choose right.
- Integrity—honesty, living the truth, humility.
- Fortitude—can endure pain or troubles with courage.

Character Is Evidenced by Reputation (Ruth 3:11; Proverbs 12:4; Proverbs 31:10)

Character Gains Wisdom from Scriptures (*Acts 17:11; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; Psalms 119:9; 1 Thessalonians 2:3-6a*)

Character Is Enhanced Through Hard Times (*Romans 5:3-5; Deuteronomy 8:2; Philippians 4:13; 1 Thessalonians 1:5-8*)

Developing Character (*Prov 22:15; Genesis 18:19; Deut. 6:4-9*)

Bad company corrupts good character (1 Corinthians 15:33)

Corrupts = to destroy the honesty of; to ruin morally; to contaminate; to render useless.

Scriptural Examples

- Paul's Warning (*2 Corinthians 11:19-20*)
- Bad Characters (*Acts 17:5*)
- Samson (*Judges 13*)
- Rehoboam (*2 Chronicles 10*)

Good company strengthens good character

- Starts at home—emphasize the family unit.
- Other families—interact with children and adults of all ages.
- Quality peers—parents take an active role in helping children make quality friendships.