

Character Counts

1 Timothy 3:1-16

January 8, 2017

This morning: Overall character for every person.

Tonight: What is a deacon and qualifications of a deacon?

Our character is important. It has been said our character is what we say and do when no one else is looking! Think about that for a minute, that thought can tell us a lot about who we are.

The following five characteristics rise to the occasion for every person whose character will count for the Lord!

1) Converted

For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. **1 Timothy 2:3-4**

Conversion is not:

A prayer

Rules

Rituals

Making someone happy.

A Checklist

One thing among many.

Conversion is:

All about what Jesus has done.

Resting my soul and eternity on Him.

Being saved into a relationship with Him.

Realizing I am not good and Jesus is my only hope.

Following Jesus.

Placing the weight of my soul and eternity on what Jesus has done.

2) Worshiper

I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting. **1 Timothy 2:8**

A Worshiper is one who is **growing** in the Lord.

Privately

But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. **Matthew 6:6**

Corporately

And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. **Hebrews 10:24-25**

Do I “have” to go to Church to be a Christian?

3) Discipler

Accountable

Each day we are either growing closer to God or away from Him.

If I am being disciplined and discipling (in time), then spiritual disciplines, obedience etc. will come over time.

Everybody needs somebody and not just a somebody, but a Jesus-loving somebody.

4) Family Leader

For if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God? **1 Timothy 3:5**

The greatest people in whom we are to disciple is our family.

Men, "The best way to be a good father to your children is to be a good husband to their mother." ~ **Jay Adams**

Husbands and wives how are you loving each other? How are you encouraging each other in your walk? How are you teaching the Gospel to your kids? Teenagers and kids how are you living out the Gospel?

5) Humble: Be willing to say, "I was wrong."

We must lay down our pride!

Before destruction the heart of a man is haughty, and before honor is humility. **Proverbs 18:12**

Prayer Focus:

- **That we would follow Jesus with all that we have, and in doing so, lead our families to do the same!**
- **We would be faithful and obedient to be a follower of Jesus Christ.**
- **What does your character say about you?**