



 *Christian
Character Builders*

Book 1

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Abundant life

John 10:10:

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

Galatians 2:20

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Matthew 6:33

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Romans 12:1

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will accept. When you think of what he has done for you, is this too much to ask?



Citizenship

Romans 13:1-3

Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.

Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.

Titus 3:1

Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good.

Philip. 3:20

But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior.

1 Peter 1:4

For God has reserved a priceless inheritance for his children. It is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay.



Cleanliness

2 Corinthians 7:1

Since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.

Jeremiah 4:14

O Jerusalem, cleanse your hearts that you may be saved. How long will you harbor your evil thoughts?

Titus 3:4-5

But then God our Savior showed us his kindness and love. He saved us, not because of the good things we did, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins and gave us a new life through the Holy Spirit.

James 4:8

Draw close to God, and God will draw close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, you hypocrites.



Consecration

Romans 12:1, 2

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Psalms 4:3

You can be sure of this:

The Lord has set apart the godly for himself.

The Lord will answer when I call to him.

Hebrews 7:28

Those who were high priests under the Law of Moses were limited by human weakness. But after the law was given, God appointed his Son with an oath, and his Son has been made perfect forever.



Contentment

Philippians 4:11-12

I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.

1 Timothy 6:6

But godliness with contentment is great gain.

Philip. 4:11

Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to get along happily whether I have much or little.

Hebrews 13:5

Stay away from the love of money; be satisfied with what you have. For God has said,

"I will never fail you. I will never forsake you."



Courage

Psalm 27:14

Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

Joshua 1:7

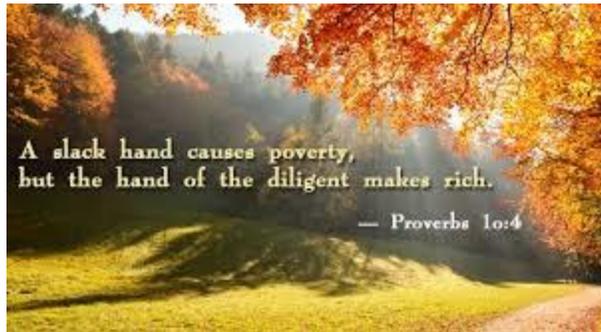
Be strong and very courageous. Obey all the laws Moses gave you. Do not turn away from them, and you will be successful in everything you do.

2 Chron. 32:7

"Be strong and courageous! Don't be afraid of the king of Assyria or his mighty army, for there is a power far greater on our side!

2 Samuel 10:12

Be courageous! Let us fight bravely to save our people and the cities of our God. May the Lord's will be done."



Diligence

Romans 12:11

Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

Proverbs 12:24

Work hard and become a leader; be lazy and become a slave.

Proverbs 21:5

Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity, but hasty shortcuts lead to poverty.

1 Tim. 5:17

Elders who do their work well should be paid well, especially those who work hard at both preaching and teaching.

2 Cor. 8:11

Now you should carry this project through to completion just as enthusiastically as you began it. Give whatever you can according to what you have.



Duty

Luke 20:21-25

So the spies questioned him: "Teacher, we know that you speak and teach what is right, and that you do not show partiality but teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. Is it right for us to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"

He saw through their duplicity and said to them, "Show me a denarius. Whose portrait and inscription are on it?" "Caesar's," they replied. He said to them, "Then give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's."

Matthew 28:19

Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

1 Thess. 2:4

For we speak as messengers who have been approved by God to be entrusted with the Good News. Our purpose is to please God, not people. He is the one who examine



Endurance

Luke 21:9-19

When you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened. These things must happen first, but the end will not come right away." Then he said to them: "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven. "But before all this, they will lay hands on you and persecute you. They will deliver you to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors, and all on account of my name. This will result in your being witnesses to them. But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves. For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents, brothers, relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. All men will hate you because of me. But not a hair of your head will perish. By standing firm you will gain life.

2 Timothy 2:3

Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus.



Faith

Matthew 8:5-13

When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking for help. "Lord," he said, "my servant lies at home paralyzed and in terrible suffering." Jesus said to him, "I will go and heal him." The centurion replied, "Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard this, he was astonished and said to those following him, "I tell you the truth, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith. I say to you that many will come from the east and the west, and will take their places at the feast with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. But the subjects of the kingdom will be thrown outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go! It will be done just as you believed it would." And his servant was healed at that very hour.



Faithfulness

Matthew 25:23

His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

Luke 9:61

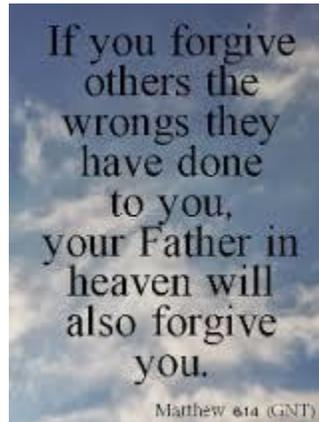
Another said, "Yes, Lord, I will follow you, but first let me say good-bye to my family."

1 Peter 4:19

So if you are suffering according to God's will, keep on doing what is right, and trust yourself to the God who made you, for he will never fail you.

Hebrews 10:23

Without wavering, let us hold tightly to the hope we say we have, for God can be trusted to keep his promise.



Forgiveness

Mark 11:25-26

And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins."

Ephesians 4:31-32

Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Luke 6:37

"Stop judging others, and you will not be judged. Stop criticizing others, or it will all come back on you. If you forgive others, you will be forgiven.

Matthew 18:21

Then Peter came to him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?"



Freedom

John 8:31-36

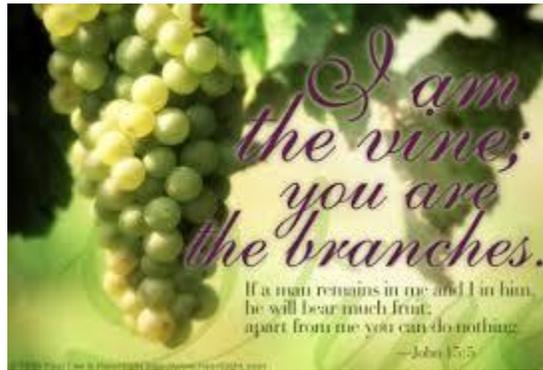
To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.

Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants[a] and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" Jesus replied,

"I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Romans 8:1-2

So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. For the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you through Christ Jesus from the power of sin that leads to death.



Fruitfulness

John 15:1-8

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine.

Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.



Godliness

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men.

It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

1 Cor. 3:16

Don't you realize that all of you together are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives in you?

John 14:23

Jesus replied, "All those who love me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and live with them.

Ephes. 3:7

By God's special favor and mighty power, I have been given the wonderful privilege of serving him by spreading this Good News.



Happiness

Matthew 5:3-12

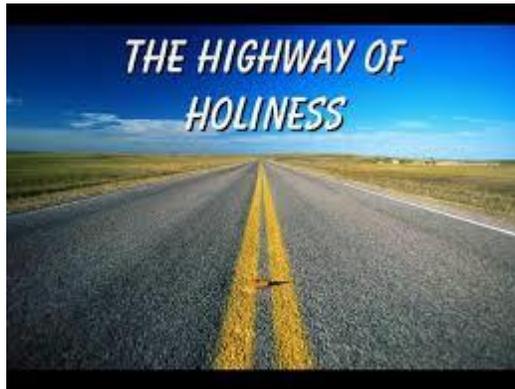
"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.



Holiness

1 Peter 1:13-16

Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed.

As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

Ephes. 1:4

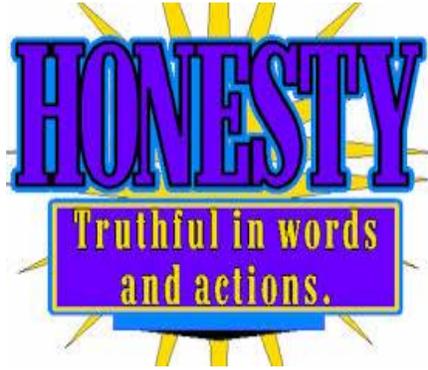
Long ago, even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes.

Col. 3:12

Since God chose you to be the holy people whom he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

Deut. 7:6

For you are a holy people, who belong to the Lord your God. Of all the people on earth, the Lord your God has chosen you to be his own special treasure.



Honesty

2 Corinthians 8:21

For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of men.

Proverbs 11:1

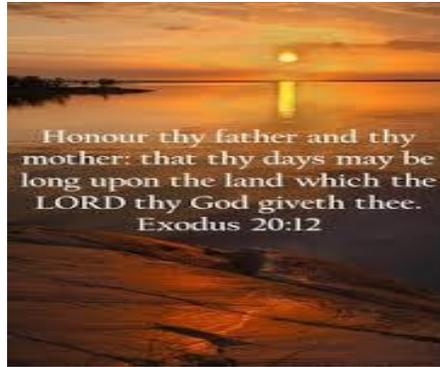
The Lord hates cheating, but he delights in honesty.

1 John 5:20

And we know that the Son of God has come, and he has given us understanding so that we can know the true God. And now we are in God because we are in his Son, Jesus Christ. He is the only true God, and he is eternal life.

Psalms 111:7

All he does is just and good, and all his commandments are trustworthy.



Honor Parents, others

Ephesians 6:1-3

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise—
16 "that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth"
1 Peter 2:17 Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king.

Malachi 1:6

The Lord Almighty says to the priests: "A son honors his father, and a servant respects his master. I am your father and master, but where are the honor and respect I deserve? You have despised my name!

"But you ask, 'How have we ever despised your name?'

Matthew 19:19

Honor your father and mother. Love your neighbor as yourself.' "

Deut. 5:16

Honor your father and mother, as the Lord your God commanded you
Then you will live a long, full life in the land the Lord your God will give you.

