

CHARACTER

C1_CHARACTER



NEED
PERSONAL EXPECTATIONS
POSITIVE
POSITIONS
CONVERSION
PRIVATELY
NORM
BELIEVED
MANY
POWERFUL
AUTHORITY
ACCESS
ONE
PUBLIC
INITIAL INFO
CONFORM
CONGRUENCE
SOCIAL
MEMBERS
ALIGNED
INDIVIDUA
COMPLIANCE
POWER
THINKING
CONSIDERATION
BEHAVIOR
EXAMPLE
HUMANS
USE
EITHER
REASONING
REASONS
MAJORITY
STANDARDS
BELIEFS
REferred
PEOPLE
UP
ACTIONS
is
POSITION
DEMONSTRATE
PUBLICLY
ACCEPTED
EXERCISE
PUBLICALLY
DIVISION
USUALLY
CITIZENS
APPEARING
HOLDING
IMPOSE
TYPE
ATTRACTIVENESS
ALTERNATIVE
LEADS
USING
ANTI-CONFORMITY
LIKED
PROFIT
SCHOOL
NORMATIVE
PRIVATE
CONFORM
ARSENAL
CONFORM

CHARACTER

Through these sessions, you have discovered your personal 'design', you have learned how best to express yourself emotionally and you have learned about why it is so important to travel light through this life.

While you can have an amazing personality, great emotional skills and carry no spiritual baggage - without a good, strong and balanced character - you will struggle to reach your full potential. Character determines success!

"A MAN'S CHARACTER IS HIS FATE" - HERACLITUS

DEFINITION! VALUES IN ACTION!

Character is essentially the valued aspects of a person's behaviour and can be identified by that person's morals, values, ethics and his/her resulting actions. Character defines who you are at your core, and who you want to become. Character also determines your response to life, irrespective of the circumstances. When you possess what is considered a 'Good Character', you will be motivated internally to take right, morally and ethically sound choices and actions.



INSIGHT!

HOW IS PURE GOLD MADE?

To achieve the highest purity of a precious metal such as gold or silver, the base metal needs to be exposed to intense heat. This refining process brings all the impurities of the gold or silver to the surface, which are then removed.

In the same manner, when we experience a crisis, our limitations and weaknesses are brought to the surface.

Our character is not developed in a crisis, but rather, the core of who we are comes to light. For the purpose of today's workshop, we will refer to these as the 'red lights' of our character.



HOW DO CHARACTER, PERSONALITY AND TALENT DIFFER?

Let's take a look at how character, which refers to our moral and mental qualities and personality, which is more about our outer appearance and behaviour, differs...

CHARACTER



Character can be learned and developed. It is the product of experience and it is moulded by our approach to life and our attitude to what we experience in life.

PERSONALITY



Personality is inherent within us and is neither right nor wrong. Our personality is our inherent way of thinking, feeling and behaving and is naturally visible in our reactions.

TALENT



Talent includes your inherent strengths. These can be mental, intellectual, creative and physical. Talents are the natural endowments of a person.

WHY IS GOOD CHARACTER ESSENTIAL?

A good character should be praised more than outstanding talent. Most talents are a gift which can then be refined through hard work. Good character, by contrast, is not given to us, we have to build it, piece by piece. By becoming aware of our thoughts and choosing those that are noble and virtuous, while encouraging ourselves within to remain courageous and determined – we build a strong character.

DISCUSSION!

Talent and competence without maturity of character is a recipe for disaster.

A talented person with good character is not afraid to lose and also takes winning in his/her stride, while genuinely recognising and celebrating the successes of others.

Why Should We Develop a Good Character?

Building a good character makes one more efficient and proficient in all areas of life, including, importantly, our relationships with others.

THE MOST ACCURATE PREDICTOR OF A PERSON'S FUTURE BEHAVIOUR IS HIS OR HER CHARACTER

MORALS, ETHICS AND CHARACTER

The deterioration of the moral fabric of society can be seen today across our country, at all levels of society, and across the world. Why is it that we see this decline in values and morals? Why are people seemingly more unethical now than ever before?

We're a culture OBSESSED with media

Most of us are slaves to the media which tells us what we should buy, how we should look, what we should watch, what we should like, how we should behave and so on. What we experience in the media tends to become our new 'normal'.

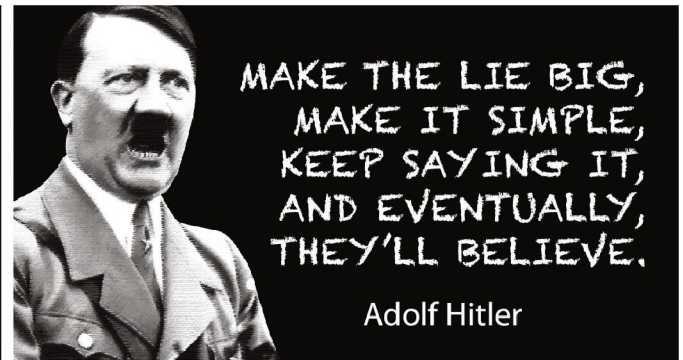
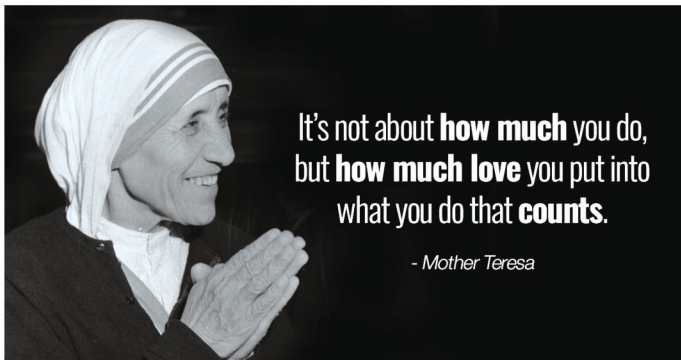
Me! Me! Me! It's ALL about ME!

We have an 'I deserve it' attitude, no matter whether we have really deserved a thing or not. We have become self-obsessed individuals who focus on our own needs above those of others and do things impulsively, because we feel like it and it serves our needs – regardless of the consequences.

No contact with solid Role Models

In most households, both parents need to work to ensure a sufficient income with the result that our youth do not spend time with the solid role models they need and are instead influenced by peers, television and video games.

WHO CAN WE THINK OF THAT DISPLAYED GOOD VS. BAD CHARACTER?



INSTEAD OF WANTING OTHERS TO CHANGE...

START WITH ME!

"If I am a good role model living with solid values and ethics, I can positively influence the lives of my family, friends and my school, church, community etc."

VALUES

Important BELIEFS that help you decide about what is right and wrong.

MORALS

RULES about what is good and acceptable in protecting life, while always being respectful to self and others.

ETHICS

Moral values in action. Standards of how we are to ACT.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A MORAL PERSON?

To be moral is to have good morals or positive guiding principles. To be immoral is to act against those positive guiding principles. The opposite of being moral is to be amoral, to not have the inner principles that guide good or positive behaviour or decisions. Without good morals that prevent them from taking certain actions, an amoral person makes negative decisions and displays unacceptable behaviours.

Character has two essential parts: Performance Character & Moral Character

PERFORMANCE CHARACTER

For achievement and excellence in any performance environment - for good and bad.

Performance Character is what motivates us to find ways to successfully act on our intentions in a positive and ethical way.

MORAL CHARACTER

For ethical conduct and successful interpersonal relationships - for good.

Moral Character is what motivates us to choose positive goals and then pursue them in a fully ethical way.

INSIGHT! REPUTATION

Character is what you stand for and reputation is what you fall for.

Reputation is based on the beliefs or opinions that are held about someone. Your reputation can suffer because of what you say and do.

WORRY ABOUT YOUR CHARACTER, NOT YOUR REPUTATION.

HOW CAN WE DEVELOP AND IMPROVE OUR CHARACTER?

A really good character is not something that happens accidentally. You need to make a concerted effort to build a good character by seeing to the foundations of your morals, ethics and values. You need to be conscious of how you want to live. You need to want to be a better person and believe that you can be. When you decide on the morals, ethics and values that you want to stand for, and then act according to these on a moment-to-moment basis, that is when you build a strong, positive character.

ACTION!

"THOSE WHO STAND FOR NOTHING FALL FOR ANYTHING"

Anonymous modern proverb



IDENTIFY FOR YOURSELF:

What morals, ethics and values are important to me?



IDENTIFY FOR YOURSELF:

What kind of person do I want to be?

IDENTIFY FOR YOURSELF:

What do I stand for?



HOW WILL I KNOW IF THERE IS ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT IN MY CHARACTER?

HOW DO I IDENTIFY THE 'RED LIGHTS' IN MY CHARACTER?

Good character transcends age, position, financial status, race, religion, education, gender and personality.
Bad character will always reveal itself in your life.

If you become aware of yourself and willing to grow, you can learn to identify the 'red lights' in your character
and also change and grow in character.

The company you keep is very important.

**REMEMBER 'BAD COMPANY CORRUPTS GOOD CHARACTER'
WHO ARE YOUR SATELLITES AROUND YOU?**

Remember how we explained mentorship in terms of satellites that keep you on the right course?
What do you allow into your life? What doors do you open?
All of this will influence your character.