

Character Trait October 29-November 4 is Generosity

Proverbs 11:3, “The integrity of the upright guides them”

CHARACTER: the qualities built into an individual's life that determine their responses, regardless of circumstances.

Generosity: Carefully managing my resources so I can freely give to those in need.

Weekly Verse: II Corinthians 9:6 “Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.”

Bible Story: In the book of Ruth chapters 2 and 3, Boaz provides generously for Ruth and Naomi.

Quote: “No one has ever become poor by giving.”

Leadership: Generosity is often thought of in terms of finances or other physical resources, but it can also be important in other ways. Generous leaders give of themselves and their time, but also give credit to others when success happens. This leads to the creation of a culture of shared success and community.

Application: Manage Your Resources--A person’s assets are not nearly as important as how that person manages those assets. Enhance your potential for generosity by carefully managing your resources.

Identify a Need-- More than giving out of your abundance, generosity identifies with the person in need and shares the burden. Know the people in your world. Be sensitive to their needs, pressures, and dreams.

Share Your Resources--Generosity seeks to invest the available wealth, time, and ability to the best advantage. Adopt the mindset of generosity: share what you can today, identify future needs, and carefully develop new resources to meet them.

Give of Yourself-- The relationship you have with another person will determine what form your generosity takes, but your willingness to give time, thought, energy, and possessions will express generosity, whatever the situation. Look for ways that you can benefit others, and freely invest in them.

Invest in Others--The ultimate measure of effective generosity is the maturity it inspires in the recipient. Building others up in a way that enables them to move on for themselves will inspire confidence in them and show that you believe they are worthwhile.

Discussion Questions:

1. If you could meet one need in your community, what would it be?
2. How might debt hinder generosity?