

## Character Trait for January 18-22 is Boldness (courage)

### Ephesians 5:1, "Therefore, be imitators of God"

**CHARACTER:** qualities built into our lives that determine our responses, regardless of circumstances.

**Boldness:** The confidence to do or say what is true, right and just.

**Weekly Verse:** Deut 31:6 "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

**Bible Story:** In 2 Samuel 12:1-14, the prophet Nathan rebukes David for his sin.

**Quote:** Courage is fear that has said its prayers.

**Leadership:** At an administrator's meeting in Colorado several years ago, we were sitting around the table discussing a difficult personnel issue and what we needed to do. The discussion centered on what would happen if we made different decisions. After going around in circles, we all stopped and realized we had been going about this backward. Instead of looking at the consequences and making a decision based off of what we thought would happen, we needed to make the right decision and deal with the consequences of that decision. Many times leaders demonstrate boldness by deciding what the right course of action is, and then following through regardless of how difficult the consequences might be. It often leads to disaster for a leader to try to worry about the consequences first.

### Application:

Establish rules so that your children know the boundaries.

Trust each child with responsibility, teach him or her how to make good decisions, and help him or her face the consequences of poor decisions.

Be open about your failures and the consequences you experience.

Recognize when children stand for truth, and praise their boldness.

### Discussion Questions:

How did each of the following Bible characters specifically demonstrate boldness?

1. Moses
2. Joshua and Caleb
3. Esther
4. Daniel
5. John the Baptist
6. Jesus