

Character Program

Year 4

Character Theme	Page
Love	2
Provision	3
Purity	4
Creation	5
Wisdom	6
Serving	7
Protection	8
Truth	9



Love

Patience

God is patient with us. Because He loves us, He always gives us another chance when we do the wrong thing.

Patience is...

- learning to wait
- being patient with people (or animals), when they don't do what we want them to do
- being patient with ourselves and not getting upset when we make mistakes
- waiting for God to answer our prayers
- finishing a job properly.
- sticking with a difficult task

Activities

1. Which of these things would you need to have patience for?
 - a) lying in the sun
 - b) watching T.V.
 - c) making a clay pot
 - d) cleaning up a big mess
 - e) untying a piece of tangled string
 - f) training a dog
2. Make a house of cards. See who can make their card building stand for the longest time.
3. Play the paper tearing game. Each person has a small square of paper, (all pieces the same size). Tear the paper round and round starting from one corner. See who can get the longest strip of unbroken paper from the square.
4. Begin and complete a craft that requires patience.

Questions

1. You have been asked to help your grandmother with shopping. She cannot walk very well, and she has poor hearing. Explain why you need patience when helping her.
2. You have been asked to help your baby brother eat his food. He has to be spoon-fed. Explain what might go wrong and why you have to be patient in doing this job.
3. Explain the meaning of this Bible verse: "Love is patient and kind."

From the Bible:

- 1 Cor. 13:4-8 Love is patient and kind.
Galatians 5:22 Patience is a fruit of the Spirit.
1 Thessalonians 5:14 Be patient with everyone.
Hebrews 12:1 Run the race with patience.

Provision

Contentment

We feel peaceful and content knowing that God is our provider. We are thankful for all He provides and don't feel pressured to own lots of material things that we don't really need.

Contentment is...

- being thankful for all that God has done for me
- being thankful for all that God has provided for me
- feeling peaceful inside, knowing that God is taking care of me
- resting in God's care

Activities

1. When do you think people are most content? Choose from the list:

- when they have lots of money
- when they are having a good time
- when they are trusting in God
- when they know they are cared for

2. When do you feel content?

3. When have you felt the opposite?

4. It is not wrong to want to have material goods if

5. It is wrong to want material goods if

From the Bible:

Matthew 6:25-34 Do not worry about tomorrow.

John 14:1-3, 18, 25-27 *Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in Me.*

Phil 4:12-14 Paul says that he knows what it is to be content.

Hebrews 13:5 Be free from the love of money.

Purity

Responsibility

Responsibility is...

- being reliable
- being accountable
- looking after my possessions
- caring for God's world
- doing the things I should do
- being in charge of the way I act
- doing the things I am meant to do

Activities

1. Choose a pet that you would like to be responsible for. Write your pet's name, and the kind or breed of animal. It can be a pet of your own, or an imaginary one. List all the things you must do to be responsible for your pet.
2. What would happen if you didn't do these things?
3. Name some of the jobs you are responsible for at home. What do you have to do, to do these jobs properly?
4. List some ways of being responsible at school.
5. A baby is not responsible because it is too young. Who is responsible for a baby? When do you think the baby starts to become responsible?
6. Which of these show responsibility?
 - Keep trying. You'll do it in the end.
 - Don't help with the washing up. It's better to go and play outside.
 - Don't share your toys with her.
 - How about giving that person some help?
 - Don't own up. Pretend you didn't break it.
 - Let's forgive each other and be friends again.

From the Bible:

Ephesians 5:8 Live as children of the light.

Creation

Environmental sustainability

We should care for God's creation and the resources He has given us.

Environmental sustainability is ...

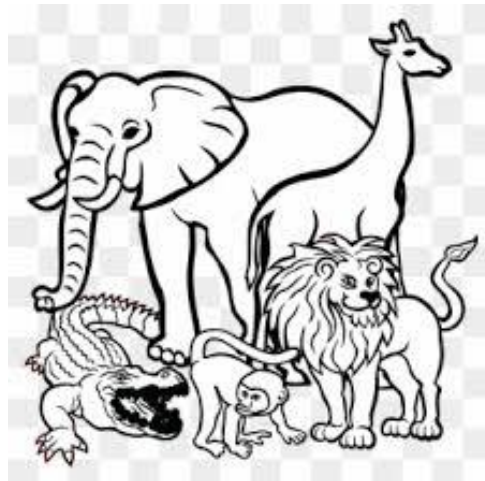
- looking after the plants, animals, soil and water in the environment
- thinking about the future and doing things that will keep the environment safe from destruction in the future
- acting responsibly when we use plants, animals, soil and water in our environment
- showing wisdom in using and preserving our nation's resources
- being wise stewards
- making wise use of the resources that God has provided
- recycling

From the Bible:

Genesis 1:29 "God said, Look I have given you all the plants that have grain for seeds in them. They will be food for you."

Genesis 2:15 God put man in charge of the creation

Psalm 96:11-12 Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice, the sea and all that is in it.



Wisdom

Making wise choices

Wisdom is...

- knowing the right thing to do, and doing it
- listening to people who are more experienced than we are
- listening to parents and teachers, and doing what they say
- doing what Jesus would do
- making right choices and decisions
- making right choices about the use of time and money

Activities

1. Imagine that you are at secondary school, and have to choose subjects that will be important for your future career. Explain how you would go about choosing your subjects. Who would you ask for advice?
2. Imagine you are given \$10 for a birthday present to spend on art materials. What would you choose and why?
 - paint set \$4
 - coloured markers \$2
 - coloured pencils \$2
 - coloured paper pack \$3
 - glue \$1
 - art paper pad \$3
 - cardboard sheets 50 cents each

From the Bible:

Proverbs 13:10 Wisdom is found in those who take advice.

James 1:5 Ask God for wisdom.

Proverbs 2:6-10 The Lord gives us wisdom.

Matthew 7:24-27 The wise and foolish builders.



Serving

Diligence

Diligence is...

- doing a job properly
- working hard at your job
- not giving up until the job is done (*perseverance*)
- keeping things neat and tidy

Activities

1. Take a survey. Find out how many in the group are learning a particular skill that requires diligence. Make a chart. Write the name of each person, the skill they are learning, how often they practice, how long they practice, and whether they find it difficult or easy.
2. Write a list of **distractions** that could occur while you are doing **one** of these things:
 - a) doing homework
 - b) training for athletics
 - c) practicing a musical instrument
 - d) keeping your room tidy
 - e) doing jobs for Mum.
3. Write down the thing that requires the most diligence for **you**. Explain why it can be difficult for you.

From the Bible:

James 5:7-11 Blessed are those who have persevered.

Hebrews 6:10-12 Diligence in helping others



Protection

Keeping safe

To keep ourselves safe we need to ...

- ask God to protect us every day.
- show wisdom in behaving safely.
- care about the safety of others.

Discussion and activities

1. Who helps you to keep safe? (parents, teachers, police, government laws)
2. How can you help yourself to keep safe?
3. Make a list of safety rules for keeping safe:
 - at home
 - walking in a place where there is traffic
 - when swimming
4. How can we show wisdom in talking to strangers?
What if the stranger offered you sweets or a nice puppy if you go with them?

From the Bible:

Proverbs 28:26 Those who walk in wisdom are kept safe.

Proverbs 18:10 The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run into it and are safe.

Bible stories: Daniel in the Lion's den; Shadrach, Meshack and Abednego were kept safe in the fiery furnace.



Truth

Commitment to truth

Commitment is...

- following through on what you say you will do
- finishing something you start
- being firm about what you believe
- being loyal to a person or a belief
- no turning back

Activities and discussion

Discuss the following commitments that people make:

- Playing in a sports team
- Singing in a choir
- Doing jobs at home
- Looking after a pet

What would happen if you decided one day that you didn't feel like doing your part?

What commitments do you have? Make a list.

From the Bible:

Ecclesiastes 9:10 Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might,

