

Write Upon My Heart

Charity

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CHARACTER—WHAT IS IT?

What is character? Why do we say that one person has good character and another poor character, or that someone has character and someone else does not? What is being measured? It is not really a person's actions, for people often make mistakes acting in good faith, and we do not consider that bad character. No, it has to do with who a person is—or has become—by the *habits* that he or she has formed.

Good habits become good character, and bad habits become bad character; and yet character is not just the sum of one's habits. In many cases it has taken only a single bad habit to destroy a life. In other cases, just one outstanding good habit has prevented an otherwise mediocre life from totally crumbling. We cannot know which habit might be our most powerful support, or which might cause our complete downfall. So, the safest venture is to develop as many good habits or traits as we can, especially in areas displacing any habits that we have which may not be good.

It takes work to form habits, but the good news is that once they are formed they are a snap to keep, for then they come naturally to us! How nice it is to be so used to doing the right thing that we actually prefer to do it! *“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap,”* —Galatians 6:7. Develop good habits when you are young, and you will reap the benefits for all of your life.

Where can we look to find the best essence of good character? How about God's Word? It has the essence of everything good. Jesus was an example of perfect character. *“For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps,”* —1 Peter 2:21. As we study His life and God's Word, they will give us the guidelines by which to form our own habits and lives.

HABITS—WHAT ARE THEY?

Habits are those things that we do most naturally or instinctively—without having to make a decision, because the decision has been made enough times that we do not have to think about it any more. Things said and done by habit are

sometimes done without thinking.

For example, you do not contemplate whether or not to dress in the morning. You do it out of habit. If you brush your teeth every morning, you do not ask yourself if you should each day. You do it out of habit. Each good habit that we build—diligently—doing the best thing in an oft-repeated situation—is like a fence that we build between ourselves and some sort of heartbreak. However, it requires no effort to develop bad habits, and bad character is exactly what lack of effort becomes. So, a little work early in life can do much to prevent the manifold grief and loss encountered as a poorly formed character limps on through the years of life.

HABITS—THEY BEGIN IN THE HEART

“For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he,” —Proverbs 23:7a. That means that we are what we think. We say what we think, and we do what we think. What determines what we think? We do. Why do we think the way that we do? We taught ourselves to think that way. Often when people say, “I really didn’t think about it,” they had already taught themselves exactly what to think about “it.”

Each thought makes a tiny connection in the brain like a thread. Each similar thought strengthens that connection by adding another thread. Eventually, the threads become great enough in number that they become a rope. Often a mind becomes bound by such a rope, whether it is a good rope or a bad rope. Habit begins to affect our thinking. We begin to do things almost automatically because what we think is what we will do.

It is important to form good habits *now*. Later may be too late. We are becoming *right now* what we are going to be. We are going to become what we are thinking *now*, because *“as he thinketh in his heart, so is he.”* Our thoughts are very powerful. We cannot touch them or see them, but nevertheless, they are very real. They are more powerful than our actions because they control our actions. However, we can decide what we think! We can make our thoughts subject to our will and the will of God. We have access to a power stronger than our thoughts—the power of God. He tells how to control our thoughts. *“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) casting down imaginations, and*

every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ,” —2 Corinthians 10:3-5.

So, why is it so important to form good habits early? Is not God powerful enough to break bad habits? Yes, He has the power to break any habit, but there are very many that He never breaks. The reason is that people grow to like their habits. They begin to hate the thought of breaking them—even the bad ones. People do not like change. The ropes that bind their minds are of their own making, and they are loath to give them up. How many drug addicts live absolutely horrid lives, bound to drugs from which they wish they were free, yet who will lie, cheat, steal, fight, and even kill to continue taking the drugs causing them so much misery? People grow to like their bad habits so much that they often will not let them go for what they wish they could have.

How do we learn not to like our bad habits? By learning to like new ones. Do what is right, and soon you will like doing it. There is a saying, “Your actions will determine your emotions.” We become comfortable with something only after we do it for a while. Another saying says, “Eat olives nine times and you will like them.” Proverbs 16:3 teaches, “*Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established.*” Do you want to think rightly? Do you want to feel good doing right even if you do not like it right now? Just do it anyway! See how much it changes the way you think and feel. Replace bad habits and have good character by simply making new habits in place of the old ones!

Lastly, it is not enough to have good character. We can have the very best character, and yet become lost for eternity, for there are none who have not sinned. The Bible tells us that the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ. Jesus paid the price for our debt of sin. Only by trusting Him will we see the Celestial City.

It is said that “character has its own reward,” and so it does. People with good character instinctively feel much better about themselves than people without it. This is a far better and happier way to live. However, this reward pales at the prospect of eternal reward. It is great to have character. But, remember, it is infinitely more rewarding to belong to Jesus, and have character for His glory.

CHARITY

*If, when I see others in need, I look the other way,
If, when I hear a plea for help, I close my ears,
If I am quick to talk about my needs, my things, and all I want,
If I look down on others because of their lack,
I know nothing yet of charity.*

Most people think that charity is just another word for love, but that is not exactly so. Charity has a different definition than love, especially in old dictionaries written at a time closer to when the English word came into use. Though the definition of love would include charity, charity is a specific aspect of love involving good will toward others. Charity is an attitude. It is giving from a completely willing heart, full of sincere brotherly love toward all others. Charity means actively loving others, really loving them from our hearts, and with our hands, and with our money and/or resources.

Another word for charity, which is no longer used, but was used in the times of Jesus, was the word “alms.” Alms means something given freely to the poor such as money or food. Charity is a heart with alms always in readiness. According to God’s Word, to have charity is very important, because to not have it means pretty much that all I may do in life is worthless. We are plainly told in God’s Word in the book of Colossians “*And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.*” So let’s get busy and begin this very important study on charity!



LEARNING THE TRAIT

The word “charity” means to have goodwill toward, or a love for, people. It would include having a generosity and helpfulness especially toward the needy or suffering. It is giving aid to those in need. The synonym list for the word “charity” includes clemency, grace, mercy, lenity, benevolence, kindness, amity, goodwill, alms, contribution, and offering. Look up the definitions of the following words using a dictionary and write them in the space provided.

Clemency _____

Grace _____

Mercy _____

Lenity _____

Benevolence _____

Kindliness _____

Amity _____

Goodwill _____

Alms _____

Contribution _____

Offering _____

“Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth.” —Luke 12:33



SCRIPTURE STUDY

Copy the following verse.

2 Timothy 2:22

What does this verse mean?

How can this verse be applied to your life?



Little deeds of kindness,
Little words of love,
Make our earth as Eden
Like the Heaven above.

BIBLE EXAMPLE



1. Read Mark 15:1-39.
2. As you answer the following questions, keep in mind that Jesus was God. He could leave earth at anytime and return to Heaven. He did not have to put up with anything from men—the creatures that He had created.

(1) The chief priests accused Jesus, Who was God, of many things. Why do you think that Jesus did not argue back or defend Himself?

(2) Why did the chief priests deliver Jesus to be put to death (vs. 10)?

(3) Why were they envious of Jesus? _____

(4) Pilate scourged (whipped) Jesus and then sentenced Him to die by crucifixion. Why did Jesus (God) willingly let a man whip Him, and willingly let a man condemn Him (God) to a painful death?

(5) The soldiers crowned Jesus with thorns, made fun of Him, laughed at Him, smote Him, spit on Him, and mocked Him. Why did Jesus (God) willingly let man do this to Him?

(6) And then they crucified Jesus (God). Man murdered his God. And verse 29 says, they railed on Him, which means to revile by using

abusive words. They mocked Him some more, and insulted Him. Jesus willingly took this abuse from man. Why?

(7) And then Jesus gave up His Spirit and died. He died for one reason. What do you think that reason was?

(8) How much love do you think it took for Jesus to do that for us?

(9) What do you think was the greatest act of charity ever performed since the beginning of the world? Explain your answer.

(10) Why does man need God's charity? Explain your answer. _____

(11) Because Jesus (God) did this for us, explain why we should be charitable to others.



SCRIPTURE STUDY

Copy the following verse.

Colossians 3:14

What does this verse mean?

How can this verse be applied to your life?



MORE ABOUT JESUS

“For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously: Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.” —1 Peter 2:21-29

These verses reveal a little more about Jesus to us. Think about the word “charity” as you read the following. This Bible passage says that Christ, Who is

Jesus, *suffered* for us. We have just studied the crucifixion, and we learned just how much He suffered for us by *letting* men treat Him very badly, and eventually put Him to death. Jesus left us a powerful example. Have you ever suffered for anyone, receiving unkindness from them so that you could do them good?

Jesus was without sin; He kept the commandments; He did His Father's will while here on earth. Do you strive to keep the commandments of God? Do you strive to follow the will of your heavenly Father?

There was no guile to be found in the mouth of Jesus. The Bible speaks quite a bit about being guileless. This is pretty important to God. What is guile? Guile means deceit, trickery, fraud, duplicity (speaking or acting in two different ways in order to deceive). Guile is just the opposite of straightforwardness, sincerity, honesty, and frankness. Are you guileless?

When Jesus was reviled, and remember that revile means to use abusive language to hurt someone, Jesus did not revile back. He did not return evil for evil. He took it without saying anything back. Has anyone ever said nasty things to you, and have you kept your mouth closed, and kept a good spirit about it, and loved him for it?

When He suffered, He threatened not. He did not threaten to get even, or be revengeful. He committed Himself to God. In other words, He left the matter with His heavenly Father to take care of it. He trusted God to handle things in God's time and way. How about you? When someone hurts you, do you threaten to get even? Do you gossip or tell others how rudely or meanly you were treated? Do you hold grudges? Or do you pray and leave matters with your heavenly Father?

Jesus—our Jesus—did all this, and more. He bare our sins on the cross; by His stripes we are healed from sin and the consequences of sin (hell). Why? So that we should *live unto righteousness*. We should follow His example. We should do good, forgive, return good for evil, be honest, and love others as He loved us. Jesus is our Good Shepherd, the Bishop of our souls. He watches over us. We should look to Him to lead and guide us in all that we say and do. Won't you begin today by faithfully reading His Word to learn more about Him and His example, to truly learn about true charity, and then strive to walk in His steps? We hope you will!



STORY ABOUT CHARITY—

THE CHILDREN'S CHOICE

by Mary Ropes

“Well, my dears, what is your decision?” asked Mr. May one morning as his three children sat down to breakfast. “Have you thought it over?”

“Yes, Papa,” replied Gerald, the elder boy.

“And do Herbert and Connie agree with you?”

“Yes, Papa.”

“Well, now, what do you wish? You need not hesitate to tell me, for you know I promised that by way of reward for your good progress at school during the last half year, I would give you the choice of three things—either a long day of sightseeing in London, a fine big rocking horse for your playroom, or a display of fireworks some night soon. Which of these things have you chosen?”

“Not one of them, thank you, Papa,” cried all three children at once.

“You see, Papa,” went on Gerald, “really we have had just about every pleasure and toy that we can want, and so we thought, if you did not mind, we should like to try now to do something useful. And it occurred to us that if you would be so good as to give us a few tools and allow us to use the little room on the ground floor for a workshop, we might perhaps manage to make some things for Christmas for our poor washerwoman’s children, and maybe for some others too. So, Papa, if you have no objection, that is what we should like best.”

“And we feel just as Gerald does!” chimed in Herbert and Connie.

“Very good, young folks,” replied Mr. May. “I am glad you should have thought of others in this matter, and I am quite willing that you should have your workshop. Your mamma can arrange about letting you have the room, I daresay, and I will see to the purchase of the tools at once.”

So in a very few days the little workshop was ready, and the children, delighted at the prospect of all working together for good results next Christmas, were just as happy as they could be. Every minute they could spare from their schoolwork was spent in that fascinating little chamber of industry.

Mr. and Mrs. May thought at first that, as soon as the novelty of the new amusement wore off, the children would weary of it, as they had often done of other



things before now. But it proved otherwise. Perhaps the good motive they had for perseverance prevented weariness; anyhow, their industry did not flag for a day.

As the evenings drew in, it was like a pleasant picture to Mr. May, when he returned home from business to peep into the workshop and see the three earnest young faces bending over their respective tasks. There was Gerald putting neat new bindings into old shabby picture books, Herbert making fret-saw frames for Scripture texts, and little Connie knitting warm stockings for gifts.

As time went on the children became quite expert in a variety of ways, and made toys as well as many useful articles. Herbert got his brother to draw on pieces of white wood outlines of animals, which he then cut out with his saw. Afterward, he glued the feet of the creatures to little wooden tablets, until he had quite an army of beasts and birds, equal almost to the contents of Noah's ark.

As for Connie, she not only knitted stockings, but little shawls, mittens, and comforters. Besides this, she dressed quite a number of dolls, showing a good deal of taste and ingenuity for so young a girl.

At last Christmas Eve came round, and the three little workers were in a high

state of excitement. Besides the things they had made, and a good many of their own toys, they had bought with their pocket money fruit and sweets, and cakes and sugar figures to give too.

The whole day they had been busy decorating the house, and it never once occurred to them that they could have anything in the way of gifts to *receive*—so full were their hearts and minds with the great joy of giving pleasure to others.

Who shall describe the rapture of the poor washerwoman's children, and their yet poorer neighbors, when they viewed all the wonderful gifts! And their hands and pinafores and pockets were all crammed with good things to eat! Nor was this all—for Mr. and Mrs. May had bought some nice warm cloaks and hoods and dresses. These were distributed among the children ere they went, so that the children walked home laden with presents.

“And now it is *your* turn,” said Mr. May. “Come in here, children—” and he led the way into a large room in a wing of the house which had been shut up of late. But what a transformation was here!

The room had been freshly papered, and a bright fire was burning in the grate. In one corner was a turning lathe, in another a small typewriter; a fine box of tools stood upon a shelf; a carpenter's bench stretched along the wall; a large workbox, already furnished, was on the table; also a basket filled with materials both for knitting and needlework.

These and many more things the room contained. Papa and Mamma had not forgotten the tastes and inclinations of one of their children, and they evidently intended that these gifts should encourage and stimulate them yet more in their charitable work.

“My dear children,” said Mr. May, “do you remember the parable of the talents, where the man who had received five, said, ‘Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more’? Well, now, I have been reminded of this by the way in which you have improved the opportunities I gave you before. These opportunities I am about to increase, so as to give you a chance for yet greater usefulness.

“And may He Who has so long ago told this parable, but Who is Himself still the Lord and Master of us all, say to each one of you some day, ‘Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou has been faithful over a few things, . . . enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.’”

Answer the following questions concerning the story.

1. What decision did the three children come to?

2. What do you think prompted the children to make that decision?

3. How did the children use their free time?

4. Why do you think children *and* adults are happier when they use their time in the way these children did than if they only played or pursued their own enjoyments?

5. What did the parents give them for a reward for their efforts?

6. Do you think their children were disappointed with such gifts? Explain.

7. How does this story illustrate charity?

8. List a few ways in which you could begin to be charitable toward others in the same manner that these children were.



SCRIPTURE STUDY

Copy the following verse.
1 Timothy 4:12

What does this verse mean?

How can this verse be applied to your life?



Acts of Charity

Do something for another,
Though small the help may be;
There's comfort oft in little things,
Far more than others see.

It takes the sorrow from the eye,
It leaves the world less bare,
If but a friendly hand comes nigh
When friendly hands are rare.

We know not what the humblest hand,
If earnest, may achieve—
How many a sad anxiety
A trifle may relieve.

We reckon not how the ragged poor
Drag on from day to day,
When e'en the little that they need
Costs more than they can pay.

Then cheer the heart that toils each hour,
Yet finds it hard to live;
And though but little's in our power,
That little let us give.

DIAGNOSE THE PROBLEM

Read the following example and answer the questions.

Sharing a Lunch

On a bright sunny day, the homeschool group was having lunch at the park. Cindy, Jane, and Lucy were sitting at the same picnic table, and were talking about the missionary offering being taken up by the young people at church. It was getting close to the time when the collection box would be opened, and they were wondering how much would be in it.

“I’ve given seven dollars so far,” said Jane, a little proudly. “How much have you given, Cindy?”

“Oh, I’m sure I don’t know, but not nearly that much,” replied Cindy. Inwardly she thought, “I wish I could give more than I do, but I don’t have very much to give. I suppose it doesn’t really matter how much because I know that Jesus just wants me to give what I can. Jane has told me that her parents give her extra money to give to the offering, but I don’t believe that my parents could afford to do that. I think that I can love those poor people as much as Jane, even though I cannot give as much. I will certainly pray for them.”

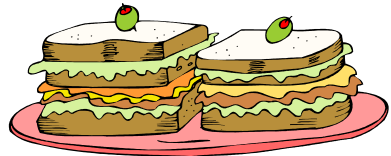
Just then Cindy noticed that Lucy was not eating at all. “How come you are not eating today, Lucy?” she asked.

“My mom was really sick with the flu this morning. She was not able to get out of bed, so she did not make me a lunch today,” Lucy replied.

“Oh, that’s too bad,” said Jane, as she put a chip in her mouth.

Cindy thought of a verse that she had been memorizing. “*And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing,*” —1 Corinthians 13:3.

Then Cindy thought, “I cannot give so much as everyone else, but certainly here is an opportunity for me to love someone.” She said, “Lucy, I had such a big breakfast that I am not so very hungry. My mom has cut my sandwich nicely in half. Please, take the other half. And, here, take the cookies also.”



1. Why do you think Jane's quiet little boasting of what she gave to the collection did not display a true spirit of charity?

2. How did Jane's words make Cindy feel? _____

3. Cindy comforted herself with what thought?

4. When it was discovered that Lucy did not have a lunch, which girl really had a true spirit of charity? Explain your answer.

5. How did 1 Corinthians 13:3 help Cindy to be charitable? _____



SCRIPTURE STUDY

Copy the following verse.
2 Peter 1:7

What does this verse mean?

How can this verse be applied to your life?

DIAGNOSE THE PROBLEM

Read the following example and answer the questions.

Playing Ball

Sam, Hal, and Chuck had just reached the park where they were going to play ball for a while. They were all very smart, and they had been talking about the good grades that they had all received at the end of the semester. As they got ready to play, Sam said, “Oh, no. Here comes Joey.”

“So, what’s wrong with that?” asked Chuck.

“Well, he’s not very smart at all, and he’s very poor. I just don’t like to hang around with him. And he’s coming with his ball glove on top of it.”

“We can just tell him that we decided to play three-cornered,” said Hal.

“Wouldn’t that be rude?” asked Chuck.

“Nah, nobody likes to play with Joey,” said Hal.

Chuck felt uncomfortable about that. He remembered some parts of a verse from Sunday school the day before. He knew it went something like: *“Though I have all knowledge, and have not charity, I am nothing,”* —1 Corinthians 13:2. Now he knew what he needed to do. “Hey, guys,” he said, “I brought my ball too. You two play catch together, and I will play with Joey.”

Chuck had a good time with Joey, and they became friends that day.



1. Do you think it is easier for boys or girls who get really good grades to be

a little prouder than those who don't? Explain your answer.

2. Why is it that if people are proud over a few things, they tend to think they are better than others?

3. When people think they are better than others, why do they want to stop being with certain people who they think are not as good as them?

4. How did Chuck's decision reflect a true spirit of charity?

5. Why is charity more important than knowledge?

6. Do you think it is sinful to act uncharitably? Explain your answer.

INSTRUCTIONS IN CHARITY

The scripture passage in 1 Corinthians 13 is the most famous passage in the Bible on charity. We will study it here and gain instruction from it.

“Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.” Verses 1-3

Though you and I could speak every language on earth and the language of the angels, and have not charity, we would just be making noise. It would be worth zero—nothing—worthless.

And though we could prophesy or tell the future, and we could understand all the mysteries of nature and the mysteries of God, and though we had all the knowledge there was possible to have, like God, and even have strong enough faith to move the mountains, and have not charity, it would be nothing—zero—worthless.

And though we would give away everything we own to feed the poor, and even be a martyr to be burned at the stake, it still is worth zero—nothing—worthless.

These are pretty puzzling verses, aren't they? Men go to colleges to become learned and strive to become great teachers, or doctors, or even ministers, but without charity, those endeavors are worthless. All the wisdom in the world is worthless without charity. Even strong faith is worthless without charity. And shouldn't we be feeding the poor? Yet that, too, is worthless without charity. And if I offer my body to be killed, if not done for the right reasons, or done without charity, it profits me nothing—zero—worthless.

Hmmm . . . It seems like charity is very, very important. All the things listed in the first three verses: knowledge, feeding the poor, a strong faith, dying for your faith—these cannot be charity. You can do all these things without charity, and the lack of charity voids them—makes them null—renders them valueless. So, what is charity? Let's look at some more verses in 1 Corinthians 13.

“Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil.” Verses 4-5.

These verses teach us that the manner or the way we do things is part of the essence of true charity.

Charity suffers a long time or is long-suffering with others. This means patience. Patience is *never* being impatient. Long-suffering implies a great understanding for other people. Thus, charity accepts other people. Charity does not judge them. It does not label them as lazy or not deserving of help. Charity understands that for whatever reason, some people have more problems in this life than others. It is not our job to judge, but perhaps to think in our hearts, that but for the grace of God, but for the good training that we have had, but for God’s blessings, we could be them. Also, people with true charity understand that God loved us while we were yet sinners, and God loves other people too, and in the same way. He died for them. He is long-suffering with them. And if we are His, we should be like Him, and suffer long too. It is a joy to do so. Try it and see.

Charity is kind to people. Kindness is many things: taking the time to be helpful; taking the time to listen when others are speaking; being interested in them, lending or giving to those in need, sharing, being polite, putting them before us, and loving them as ourselves, the second great commandment.

Charity does not envy others. Now, we never envy poor people, or sick people, or people who are going through hard times. Do you wonder why this statement is in this verse? Doesn’t charity have to do with helping poor people? It seems that we are supposed to love all people—rich or poor. If we have envy in our hearts toward someone, we cannot love them. Love and envy cannot live together in the same heart. Thus, we are to love rich people. We should be glad for what they have or get to do, and we should be long-suffering and kind toward them too. After all, did not Jesus die for them? God, in His Word, tells us not to be a respecter of persons. To God, rich and poor are all the same. They are sinners in need of Him. God says we are to have charity toward them.

Charity vaunteth not itself. Vaunteth means to not boast about one's self. You know, "I got an A on my report. I won first place. I have the most. I have the best. I have the prettiest. I'm better. I'm nicer. I'm faster. I'm smarter." All such boasting is vanity—worth nothing. It is pride, sinful pride. We are not better than another. We are sinners. We deserve hell. God does not care if we are better or smarter or have more than someone else. He cares if we are obeying Him. That is all that matters to Him. If we have true charity toward another, we will never boast to them, in front of them, or even think boastful thoughts in our hearts.

Charity is not puffed up. Now that is a funny word, "puffed." It means to swell up or to inflate—kind of similar to blowing up a balloon. And with what would a person without true charity swell or fill himself with? Pride, vanity, or thinking that he is better than someone. It also means to speak or act in a scornful, conceited, or exaggerated manner. Is it really possible for someone listed in the first three verses—one with great knowledge, one who gives all he has to the poor, one who has great faith—to be puffed up? Yes, it is. You see, it is our heart attitude toward God and others that counts. We can give money to the poor, but if we think we are better than them, it is worth nothing. Pride and haughtiness are shameful sins for a Christian to keep in his heart. True charity is not puffed up but is clothed in humility and kindness.

Charity does not behave itself unseemly. Unseemly means to not behave one's self properly, or to not have good behavior. Charity does not misbehave, and is not rude. Well, now you can do a study on good manners! A person with charity does everything with kindness in a mannerly way, always showing the greatest respect for the person whom he is helping.

Charity seeketh not her own. Simply put, charity is not selfish. If we, for one moment, put ourselves first, we have immediately stopped being charitable. If we, for one moment, hold back something from another, we have ceased to have charity. If we do, or give, or speak, to gain praise from men, or to look better in their eyes, we do not have true charity. Charity strictly operates from a love for God and a love for others. It has no other motive.

Charity is not easily provoked. A person with true charity does not get angry very easily. They do not get angry when things do not go their way or are not done their way. They are not impatient people. In other words, it takes a great deal to make them angry, or snappish, or irritable. People with charity are peaceful, tranquil, serene people. They are seldom upset. Why? Because their God is a God of peace, and their Saviour is the Prince of Peace, and they are His, so they follow after their Lord. So, the normal things of earth just do not bother them.

Charity thinketh no evil. People with charity have good thoughts and not evil thoughts. They think about good things and not bad things. There is so much evil in our world, but people with charity follow the advice in Philippians 4, which is *“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”* Plus, people with true charity do not think evil or bad thoughts toward anyone. They think good thoughts about people. They pray for people. You cannot have charity toward someone and think bad thoughts about them at the same time. Bad thoughts might be envious thoughts, unkind thoughts, scornful thoughts, bitter thoughts, critical thoughts, and more. True charity will only have good thoughts about people, rich or poor.

Whew! Those two verses give us a great deal on which to work! Certainly, God’s Word is a light, and when we hold up that light to our hearts, we can see all the dark spots where there is no charity, only sin.

To continue with the next two verses, *“Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.”*

Charity does not rejoice in iniquity. These two verses are something we do, if we have true charity. We do not rejoice in wickedness or sin. Perhaps we should say that we do not enjoy the wicked things of this world. But then who should tell us what the wicked things are? Some people may tell us that some wicked things are good. Who should we listen to? My friends, read God’s Word, study God’s

Word, and pay attention to God's Word. All the answers are in His Word. Pray, study, and seek answers from His Word. Rejoice in every single thing you find in God's Word. Rejoice in the truth! Obey the truth! Jesus said in John 8:32, "*And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*" Anything that is not truth is a lie. Only the truth can set us free from sin, from slavery to sin, from the lies of men who want to bring us into bondage or make us slaves to them. Find the truth. It is in God's Word!

Beareth, **believ**eth, **hop**eth, and **endur**eth all things. If we have true charity, like God—like Jesus, we can bear anything—sickness, pain, heartache, sorrow, persecution—anything! We will believe God and His Word! We will hope according to His Word, and we will endure all things for the sake of Jesus Who died for us. There is nothing that we cannot bear with Him for an example.

And the last verse, "*And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity,*" —1 Corinthians 13:13.

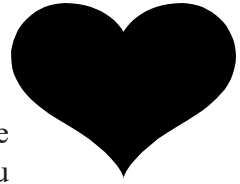
Three great virtues, faith, hope, and charity, but charity is the greatest. Why? Faith is something we possess, hope is personal, but charity is for others. It is the fulfilling of the entire law. "*For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself,*" —Galatians 5:14. This is the sum of Old Testament and New Testament Law, "*Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.*" You know John 3:16—"*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son . . .*" For us, we should be saying, "We love others so much that we give our lives for them."

Jesus, God's Son says, "*Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.*" God gave His Son, Jesus. Jesus gave His life for us. We should give our lives for others. That is why, without charity, without giving our lives for others, as God and Jesus did, our lives our worth nothing! Won't you begin today to have charity in your heart? Won't you begin today to live charitably for the sake of Jesus? We hope so!

"Let all your things be done with charity." 1 Corinthians 16:14

SEARCHING YOUR HEART

Answer the following questions.



1. Do you think pretty well of yourself? Perhaps you are talented in music, or school comes easy for you, or you are good at a sport, or you live in a nicer home than your friends. Do any of those things tend to lift your heart or your attitudes and make you feel that you are a little better than other people? Explain why you would think this, and how it reflects in your behavior.

2. Following is a quick checklist. Answer honestly, for God already knows the answers and so do your family and friends, for they see your behavior.

Are you a patient person? _____

Are you always kind? _____

Do you sometimes envy other people? _____

Do you ever boast? _____

Do you think you are better than some people? _____

Do you take care of your needs first? _____

Are you ever impatient? _____

Do you ever think bad thoughts about other people? _____

What are you going to do about your answers? _____

3. Do you ever rejoice if someone else fails? _____

4. Do you rejoice in or enjoy some things, perhaps some entertainment or books that you know Jesus would never enjoy?

5. Do you rejoice in the Bible? _____ Or do you wish you could do other things that the Bible teaches not to do? _____ Why? _____

6. If the charity is the greatest of all things, why do you think so few people have true charity?

7. Why do you not have it, or not have it in all things?

8. What are you going to do about this?

Talk these things over with your parents. Ask them to help you begin changing. They will be happy to pray for you and remind you to be more charitable.



STORY ABOUT CHARITY—

Nellie's Giving Up

Selected

“Nellie, Nellie, where are you? I want you. Do call and tell me where you are!”

Charlie Dennis was, like most boys, not overflowing with patience, and, moreover, he had some pleasant news for his sister, and wished to tell her as soon as possible. The truth of it was, that Cousin Tom's gig and brown mare were at the door, and a very delightful little plan had been proposed, a treat which included both Nellie and Charlie: hence his wish to find his sister.

At last, to his many shouts he heard a faint reply, which told him that his sister was in the storeroom, a small place on the cellar floor, known to Charlie mainly because of the fruit and preserves that were kept there.

Down the steps went Charlie, not walking down one at a time, but swinging himself over three or four at a jump, after the fashion of many of our young friends.

He threw open the storeroom door, and saw his sister, who was standing with her sleeves tucked up over the elbows, a jar in one hand, and a little parcel in the other.

“Look here!” cried Charlie, panting with the haste of his rapid descent, “do put those things down, and come and get your hat on; there is not a moment to lose. Cousin Tom is here with his gig, and he says he has nothing particular to do this afternoon, and if we like, he will take us for a drive. I told him that of course we liked!” added Charlie vehemently.

“Yes, dear,” said Nellie, “there can be no doubt about it's being a great pleasure, but I cannot go this afternoon.”

“What!” cried Charlie, “cannot go? You do not mean it, Nellie, surely. You may not have another chance for ever so long.”

“Yes, Charlie, I know,” replied Nellie. “You see, dear, I promised Jessie Hill that I would go to see her this afternoon, and even now I am getting ready a few things to take to her. You know, Charlie, I promised, and it would be very wrong to break my word because I could not bear to give up a pleasure.”

“Well,” cried Charlie, “I think it is quite too bad of you, and really unkind to me; I do believe you love that girl better than you do your own brother. I should

have thought that charity had better begin at home. You would not give up going to see Jessie because you think she wants you, but you do not mind disappointing me.”

An angry flush rose to Nellie’s cheeks; was it not cruel, she thought, to add to her trouble in this way? Was it not hard enough to give up that pleasant drive in the country without having to struggle against her brother’s harsh and unjust words?

The flush rose, but it passed away again, and a minute was gone in silence, then Nellie said gently, “I must try and do what is right, Charlie dear, and, if you love me, you must not urge me to anything else. You know I care for you very much indeed, and it is always a trouble to me when I cannot do just what you wish. So now run away and enjoy yourself, and be sure you tell me all about the drive when you come home.”

Charlie did not smile into his sister’s face as he turned and left her; he chose to consider himself offended, and went off without another word, but with a very sullen face.

Nellie looked after him for a moment, then, quietly putting together the things she had prepared for the sick child, she got ready for her visit.

We would not have the reader think that it was no trial to Nellie to forego the pleasant drive into the country, or that it was not hard for her to bear her brother’s unjust words; but for some time past Nellie had been trying to do what was right, and in her little way to take up her cross and follow her Saviour. It was the strength given her by her love for Jesus that made her willing to deny herself for His dear sake, to comfort, if she could, one of His afflicted children, and to listen, without any angry reply, even to Charlie’s harsh words.

So Charlie, with his vexed face and anger in his heart, drove off in his cousin’s gig, while Nellie, wiping away two or three quiet tears, which would steal down her cheeks, took up her basket and set forth on her errand of mercy.

It was worth all she lost to see how poor Jessie’s pale face brightened at the sight of Nellie; how her eyes shone and then filled with grateful tears as the kind visitor unpacked the basket, and then sat down to read to the sick friend out of a book. Nellie, too, had never felt happier in her life than she did when, after her hour and a half’s visit, she found herself on her way home again, and felt how fully God repaid those who worked even a little for Him.

Charlie reached home about an hour after her, and just showing his face at the

door of the room where she was sitting, he said softly, and with a very grave face, "Nellie, would you mind coming here a minute, I want to speak with you."

Nellie went to him at once, and was quite taken by surprise when he suddenly threw his arms round her neck, and said, "Nellie, darling, I want you to forgive me for being so unkind to you—I was thinking of my words all the time as we drove along, and I'm so very sorry. I see now that you did quite right to keep your promise to Jessie; and what is more, Nellie, I am going to try and be like you, and think less of myself and more of other people; and then, perhaps," added Charlie in a lower tone, "God will help me, as I am sure He does you."

So you see real good was wrought in several ways, and more than one heart was made happy, and God's work was carried on just by a little girl's act of self-denial.

Let us remember our Lord Jesus Christ of Whom it is said, "He pleased not Himself." The more we are like Him, the more humble and self-denying we shall be.

Answer the following questions concerning the story.

1. Why was Charlie upset with Nellie?

2. How did Nellie handle the situation?

3. What was the final outcome for all involved?

4. Is it always easy to stay the course and do the most charitable thing in every situation? Why?



A Winter Evening Song

The storm winds blow so sharp and severe,
The wind is bitter rude;
Thank God, with blazing coals and wood
We sit in comfort here.
The trees as purest down are white,
The river hard as lead.
Sweet Mother! Why so dull tonight?
Our home is warm, our fire burns bright,
We've a sheltering roof and bread.

Poor beggars all the city through
That wander!—pity knows
That if it rains, or hails or snows,
No difference 'tis to you.
Your children's birthdays come—no throng
Of friends approach your door;
'Tis a long suffering, sad as long:
No fire to warm—to cheer, no song—
No presents for the poor.

And can it be? Indeed it can
That I so favored stand;
And he, the offspring of God's hand,
A poor deserted man.
And then I set to muse; I sit
The riddle to unravel;
I strain my thoughts, I tax my wit;
The less my thoughts can compass it,
The more they toil and travel.



And thus, and thus alone, I see,
When poring o'er and o'er,
That I can give unto the poor,
But not the poor to me:
That, having more than I require,
That more I'm bound to spread,
Give from my heart a spark of fire,
Drops from my cup, and feed desire
With morsel of my bread.



DECISIONS TO MAKE

Decisions are choices that we make. We are responsible for them. We can blame no one else but ourselves when we make wrong decisions. Our aim or goal should be to make good, godly decisions. Won't you decide now to:



1. Think about others first.
2. Think about what you can do for others.
3. Help others all that you can.
4. Brighten the days and lives of others.
5. Give what you can to help others.
6. Speak kindly to others.

And thus I found, that, scattering round
Blessings in mortal track,
The riddle ceased my brains to rack,
And my torn heart grew sound.
The storm winds blow so sharp and severe,
The cold is bitter rude;
Come, poor man, come, our garment share,
A portion of our dwelling share,
A morsel of our food.



H Tollens

STORY ABOUT CHARITY—

LITTLE DEEDS

Selected

“Tim Chapman is a good sort of a fellow, ain’t he?” said John Sefton to one of his fellow workmen. “Seems to give him real pleasure to do a kindness to some poor man as is down in his luck, or ailin’, or out o’ work.”

A certain feeling of pride and kindness showed itself on the face of Jerry Coolton, as he heard these words, for Tim Chapman and himself had both been born and bred in the same little faraway village home. It did his heart good to hear him thus praised. It even seemed more than praise for Tim—it was praise for their village and their people. His thoughts went back lovingly to the days when he and Tim were boys together.



He looked up with a smile, as he answered John Sefton’s remark.

“No,” he said, “it don’t seem strange to me, mate. You see I knowed his mother. She was a good woman, she was, if ever there was one.”

“How so?” John Sefton asked, for in his own way the man was a keen observer of character, and he found the study deeply interesting.

“Well,” Jerry Coolton continued, only too pleased to speak of his old friends, “Mary Chapman was always ready to do a hand’s turn for anyone—she and her husband were perhaps a bit better off than most of the poor folks of Lopenworth, but instead o’ that makin’ them stuck-up and proud, it seemed only to make them love to do all they could for everyone around them.

“There was only themselves and Tim, so Mrs. Chapman had a good bit o’ time on her hands. I remember well, how day after day, she used to walk a mile to ‘do’ for a poor old bedridden woman, and not for money, mind you, but from the goodness of her heart.

“Then there was ourselves. We lived next door to them, and a big family we was too. A baker’s dozen we used to laugh and call ourselves, and a hard struggle

it was when we was young, with even the eldest scarcely earnin' a few shillin's a week. For years she let three of us sleep in her little back room so as we wouldn't be so crowded. More often than not she would make us have supper with Tim 'so as there shouldn't be so much cookin' for Mother,' she used to say as she set us down to a steaming hot plate of pudding.

"Only my mother could tell you what a neighbor she was, in the real sense o' the word. In sickness and in health, in poverty and in plenty, in fine weather and in foul, Mary Chapman was the same. Aye, and she was the same not only to us but to everyone.

"She had not the opportunity like a great lady with lots o' money to do very great and talked-of deeds. But she never let slip the chance of doin' the little deed of love and charity as came to hand day by day. Mates, those little deeds that so many of us neglect every day of our lives counts more than aught else in making the happiness o' the world." Jerry's good-natured face flushed with pride and excitement in his enthusiasm for the beloved and dearly-remembered friend of his boyhood.



"And," he added more quietly "you see it ain't no sort o' surprise for me to hear you a sayin' the same sort o' things about her Tim. With such a mother as *that* it ain't to be wondered at!" And John Sefton quite agreed with him.

He was a far more reserved and silent man than Jerry Coolton, and though he thought a good deal of Jerry's words he made no remark.

"Yes," he thought to himself, "Jerry is right. There is a sight o' happiness in this world lost because folks neglect to do the little deeds of love and kindness that cost them perhaps not a farthin', but only a bit o' thought and trouble." And he went about his work with a curious little smile on his shrewd, clever face. The lesson of Jerry's words was not thrown away.

Answer the following questions concerning the story.

1. Make a list of all the deeds of charity you find in this story. There are at least four.

2. What words were used to describe Mary Chapman?

3. Why do you think Mary Chapman had a charitable spirit?

4. Why is charity a direct opposite of selfishness?

5. List a few charitable things you can do for your family or neighbors.

How to Do Good

He who waits to do a great deal of good at once, will never do anything. Life is made up of little things. It is but once in an age that occasion is offered for doing a great deal.

If we would do much good in the world, we must be willing to do good in little things, little acts one after another, speaking a word here, giving a tract there, and setting a good example all the time; we must do the first things we can, and the next, and then the next, and so keep on doing good.

Selected

THINGS TO DO

It is one thing to study a character trait, learn definitions, and ponder Scriptures. It is another thing to put those ideas into action and make them a part of your life. Following is a list of things that you can do to build the habit of charity in your life. Complete as many items as you can (no fewer than four) from the following list.

1. Memorize 1 Corinthians 13.
2. On a sheet of paper, make a list of the things to be or to do in 1 Corinthians 13. Next to each one, write what things you need to change about yourself. Put this in your Bible so you can pray over it, and as a reminder to you.
3. On the same sheet of paper, make a list of little acts of charity that you can perform, and then be sure to do them.
4. Pray about how much you can give to poor people, and then give.
5. Memorize one poem about charity.
6. Write an essay about charity.

Remember . . .

When you are tempted to be selfish—

- ✓ **Don't be!** Immediately give or yield or agree.
- ✓ **Never** be hasty with your words, unkind, or impatient.

Always . . .

- ✓ Pray immediately.
- ✓ Slow down and think.
- ✓ Behave as Jesus would.

Do say . . .

- ✓ "How can I help?"
- ✓ "Let me do this."
- ✓ "What do you need?"

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." —Matthew 6:19-21



Can you find these words in the puzzle?

alms

clemency

grace

love

amity

contribution

kindliness

mercy

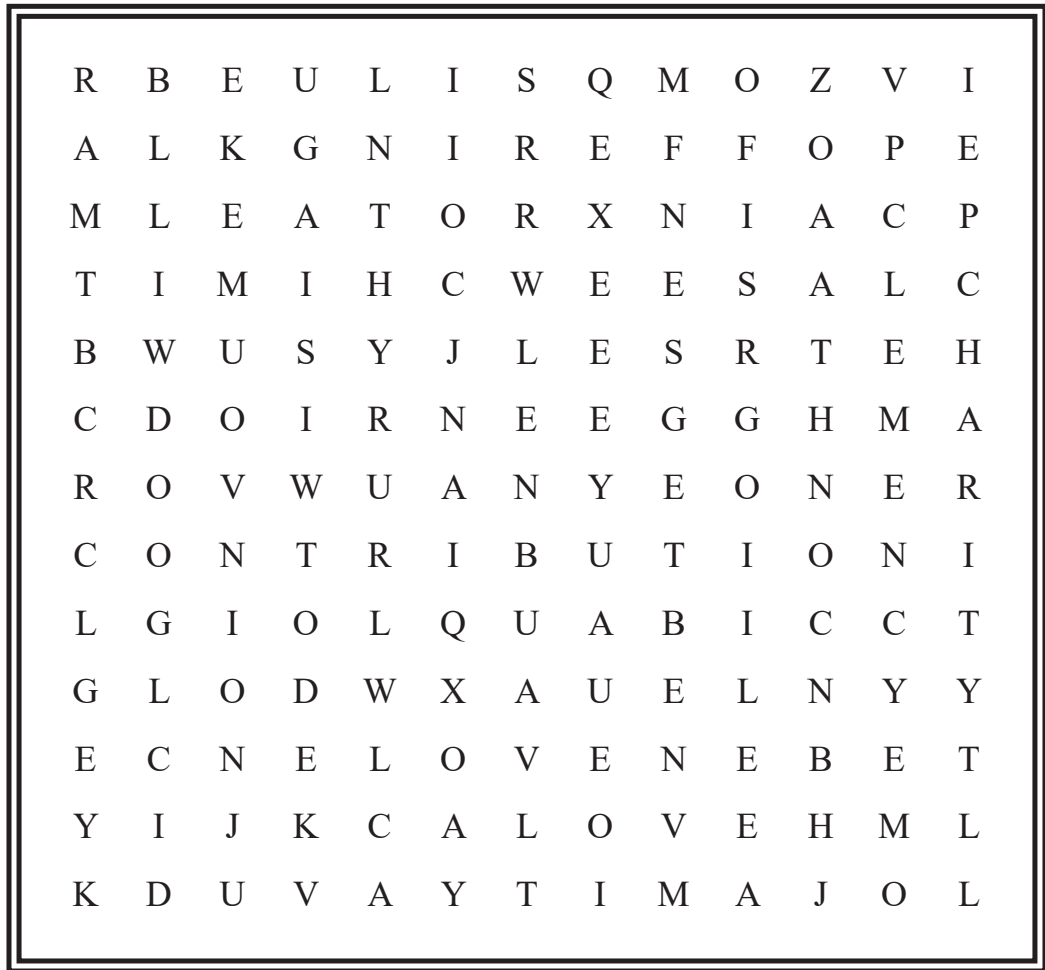
benevolence

goodwill

lenity

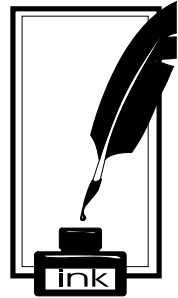
offering

charity



KEEPING A JOURNAL

Many people say that it takes thirty days to create a habit, and that is just what we are trying to do—create the habit of charity! The next thirty pages will be set aside to record your progress in making the character trait “Charity” an integral part of *your* character. At the end of each day ask yourself the following questions, and write down the answers, and anything additional concerning your “charity” trait.



Following are a few *reminders* or *goals* to help you begin focusing on charity each day.

1. Take a sheet of paper and write the word “charity” in large letters, and place it where you will see it the first thing in the morning when you awake.
2. Upon awakening and seeing the word “charity,” say a prayer for God to help you to be charitable that day.
3. Purpose in your heart to wear a bright, sunny smile all day.
4. Purpose in your heart to be helpful to everyone, all day long.
5. Using index cards or small sheets of paper, write the word “charity” on them, and put them in places in the house where you will see them.
6. Place one of the cards in your Bible; place others in your schoolbooks or reading books.
7. At noon or lunchtime, go to your room and kneel down and pray, and ask God to continue to help you to have a true spirit of charity toward others.
8. At dinnertime, have another private prayer time with God, and ask for continued help in establishing the habit of charity or serving others with a true spirit of love.



Day 1 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 2 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 3 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 4 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 5 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 6 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 7 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 8 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 9 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 10 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 11 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 12 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 13 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 14 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 15 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 16 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 17 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 18 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 19 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 20 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 21 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 22 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 23 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 24 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 25 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 26 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 27 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 28 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 29 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?

Day 30 Date _____

1. Did I keep a charitable spirit all day? _____
2. Was there any occasion when I served myself rather than another? What was it, and why did I do that?

3. What sin or sins kept me from being charitable today?

4. How did I show charity to others today?

5. What more could I have done to have a loving and charitable spirit today?
