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**Theme:** Your Character and God

**Scripture:** Psalm 1:1-3 (NKJV)

*“Blessed is the man who walks not in the council of the ungodly; nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of the scornful; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in his law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.”*

**A Thought:** I believe that in the deepest recesses of our hearts lies a remote and secluded space of good habits and good will. We know, we know what is right and what is wrong. We live in a world of “me” and Christian men are not strangers to the “habits” of the “me” syndrome. Hence, the importance of the words of Paul’s exhortation in 1 Corinthians 15:33 (NIV) *“Do Not be misled: Bad company corrupts good character.”* Sometimes we take the path (what we believe to be) of less resistance. Generally this rocky path to be sure is without God. Sadly, in many instances God is not top priority in our lives. The “me’s” have taken over. (Matthew 6:33 NCV) *“The thing you should want most is God’s kingdom and doing what God wants. Then all these other things you need will be given to you”* Once again, please read Psalm 1:1-3.

Now....what are your thoughts? Write them down.

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### **Talk to yourself:**

- What is your take on the definition of character?
- How much time do you spend with (prayer) God? Hmm?
- What steps should you take to build a godly character?
- What lesson did you learn from taking one of the above paths?
- Ok let's look to the future. Are you planning to water the tree (you)? Or are you letting it go dry. Choices! Choices!

### **Scriptures to read:**

Proverbs 10:9; Isaiah 64:8; Matthew 6:33; Romans 5:3-5; Ephesians 5:4; Philippians 2:14-16; Hebrews 12:1; Titus 2:6-8; James 1:22

### **Quote:**

E. Stanley Jones, Christian Missionary to India, *"Every time you refuse to face up to life and its problems, you weaken your character."*

D. I. Moody, Evangelist, author, founder, Moody Bible Institute  
*"Character is what you are in the dark."*

### **Bottom Line:**

What does my character have to do with God? Who truly know me? Especially at home, work, social gatherings, friends and for that matter - church? The questions are endless. Find yourself by spending time with the Lord through prayer and study. Referring to God and doing God's work builds the "character being" within us. To give you a start in character building here are six character traits to live by: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship. Listen to the the advice from a friend or a mentor. Proverbs 1:5 (NKJV) *"A wise man will hear an increase learning, and a man of understanding will attain wise counsel."*

C.S. Lewis, Christian author and essayist, Screwtape Letters, Mere Christianity, *"I've been trying to make the reader believe that we actually are, at present, creatures who's character must be, in some respects, a horror to God, as it is, when we really see it, a horror to ourselves. This I believe to be a fact: and I noticed that the holier a man is, the more fully he is aware of that fact."*

### **NOW.....THAT'S THE BOTTOM LINE.**

Spiritual Dabbler, Your bro, Ray

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