

Character Trait for April 16-20 is Wisdom

Philippians 1:9-10, "And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ"

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

Wisdom: Making practical application of what is learned.

Derivation: The word *sapience* is derived from the [Latin](#) *sapientia*, which is the basis for the word wisdom. It means displaying sound judgment in a complex, dynamic environment.

Weekly Verse: Psalm 37:30 "The mouths of the righteous utter wisdom and their tongues speak what is just."

Bible Story: I Kings 13:16-28 gives us the story of Solomon demonstrating wisdom as he tried to discover who the baby's true mother was.

Quote: "Never mistake knowledge for wisdom. Knowledge helps you make a living. Wisdom helps you make a life."

Application:

In 1732, Benjamin Franklin founded and published Poor Richard's Almanac, an annual collection of practical information, humorous stories, and wise sayings. How can you apply some of his folk wisdom?

- "Be slow in choosing a friend, slower in changing."
- "By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail."
- "Diligence is the mother of good luck."
- "Half a truth is often a great lie."
- "He that composes himself is wiser than he that composes a book."
- "He that is good for making excuses is seldom good for anything else."
- "He that won't be counseled can't be helped."
- "It takes many good deeds to build a good reputation, and only one bad one to lose it."
- "Many a man thinks he is buying pleasure, when he is really selling himself to it."
- "The doors of wisdom are never shut."
- "There never was a truly great man that was not at the same time truly virtuous."

Discussion Questions:

Which of the quotes from Benjamin Franklin can you identify with the most?

Do any of these sayings not make sense in our modern lives because they are outdated?