

## Character Trait for May 14-18 is Security

**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.

**Security:** Structuring my life around that which cannot be destroyed or taken away

**Derivation:** late Middle English: from Old French securite or Latin securitas; 'free from care'

**Weekly Verse:** Psalm 20:7 "Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God."

**Bible Story:** Luke 15:11-32 tells the story of the prodigal son. Where were each of the sons trying to find their security?

**Quote:** "Sometimes trials are God's way of taking our hands off of things that aren't secure and putting them on the only thing that is-Him."

**Application:** (Charles Ryrie, *So Great Salvation*, Victor Books, 1989, p. 137ff. )

The 3-year old felt secure in his father's arms as Dad stood in the middle of the pool. But Dad, for fun, began walking slowly toward the deep end, gently chanting, "Deeper and deeper and deeper," as the water rose higher and higher on the child. The lad's face registered increasing degrees of panic, as he held all the more tightly to his father, who, of course, easily touched the bottom. Had the little boy been able to analyze his situation, he'd have realized there was no reason for increased anxiety. The water's depth in ANY part of the pool was over his head. Even in the shallowest part, had he not been held up, he'd have drowned. His safety anywhere in that pool depended on Dad. At various points in our lives, all of us feel we're getting "out of our depth" -- problems abound, a job is lost, someone dies. Our temptation is to panic, for we feel we've lost control. Yet, as with the child in the pool, the truth is we've never been in control over the most valuable things of life. We've always been held up by the grace of God, our Father, and that does not change. God is never out of his depth, and therefore we're safe when we're "going deeper" than we've ever been.

### Discussion Questions:

Make a list of five things that people often try to find security in besides God.