

Character Trait Feb 27th – Mar 3rd is Dependability

Proverbs 11:3, “The integrity of the upright guides them”

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

Dependability: Fulfilling commitments even in the face of difficulty and unexpected sacrifice.

Derivation: De•pen•da•bil•i•ty n 1: quality of that which can be counted upon; able to be leaned upon 2: reliability 3: trustworthiness

De- is the Latin prefix meaning "down" or "from." Combine this with *pendere*, "to hang," and you have a word picture that illustrates the meaning of dependable.

Weekly Verse: Proverbs 25:19 “Like a broken tooth or a lame foot is reliance on the unfaithful in a time of trouble.”

Bible Story: 2 Timothy 4:9-18. Compare and contrast the two sets of people that are mentioned by Paul in these verses.

Quote: "Do what we say we will do, when we said we would do it, in the best way we can."

Application: When a rock climber ties a rope around a rock and rappels off a cliff, his life "hangs from" the stability of that rock. Similarly, when a supplier makes a delivery on time, the projects depending on the delivery can continue. Dependability is keeping your word so that others can "hang" their plans on your promise.

Discussion Questions:

1. Name someone you know who demonstrates consistent dependability. How do his or her words and actions show trustworthiness?
2. When was a time you had to make some unexpected sacrifices in order to get a job done?