

## Character Trait Apr 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> is Loyalty

### 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.

**Loyalty:** Demonstrating commitment to others.

**Derivation:** loy•al•ty n 1: the quality or state of being faithful to a person or institution to which fidelity is due 2: the tie binding a person to that to which fidelity is due.

**Weekly Verse:** Proverbs 17:17 “A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.”

**Bible Story:** Matthew 26:69-75 Peter does not demonstrate loyalty as he denies Jesus three times.

**Quote:** “Loyalty should be more than a word. It should be a lifestyle.”

**Application: Pursue Justice:** Justice is “taking personal responsibility to uphold what is pure, right, and true.” Those who lack personal convictions rarely show dependability or loyalty. Without justice, loyalty loses direction and purpose. Justice makes the difference between a flatterer and a loyal friend.

**Find True Security:** Security is “structuring my life around that which cannot be destroyed or taken away.” Other’s negative reactions can make life difficult. As you uphold commitments, take responsibility for your part of each relationship and focus on how you can respond with integrity, regardless of other’s actions.

**Practice Alertness:** Alertness is “being aware of what is taking place around me so I can have the right responses.” Relationships require constant vigilance so that “small” offenses do not lead to big breakdowns. Be aware of those around you, and notice the circumstances in their lives. Pay attention to their needs and feelings.

#### Discussion Questions:

1. Do you think that God can be loyal? Is it possible for Him to have this character trait?
2. What are some commitments you have made to other people? Why is it important to fulfill those commitments?