

Christian Character (VIRTUES) for men –

1. Love –
2. Lordship –
3. Forgiveness
4. Commitment
5. Stewardship
6. Serving others
7. Prayer

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|-------------------|---------------|
| 8. Bible study | 13. Joy |
| 9. Holiness | 14. Obedience |
| 10. Righteousness | |
| 11. Faith | |
| 12. Integrity | |

1. **Love** - an intense feeling of deep affection – agape, phileo, eros

"The act of caring and giving to someone else. Having someone's best interest and wellbeing as a priority in your life. To truly love is a very selfless act."

1 John 4:20 - Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen.

And He said to him, “ ‘You shall Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ (Matthew 22:37, NASB)

“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. (Luke 6:32, NASB)

“By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:35, NASB)

“If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. (John 14:15,

If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. (1 Corinthians 13:1, NASB)

Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, (1 Corinthians 13:4, NASB)

Love never fails;

2. **Lordship** - supreme power or rule, sovereign, a respectful form of reference or address to a judge, a bishop, or a man with a title, authority, dominance
2 Corinthians 4:5 NIV

For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

Romans 10:9 NIV

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Luke 6:46 "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"

Matthew 7:21-23 NIV

21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?' 23 Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'"

3. **Forgiveness** - the action or process of forgiving or being forgiven. an intentional decision to let go of resentment and anger. It does not mean that you "sanction" what they did.

Many don't understand the difference between trust and forgiveness.

Forgiving others must be immediate, whether or not a person asks for it.

Trust, on the other hand, has to do with future behavior and it will likely take time to build or rebuild. "If someone hurts you repeatedly, you are commanded by God to forgive them instantly, but you are not expected to trust them immediately, and you are not expected to continue allowing them to hurt you."

Luke 11:4 - Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us.

Matt 18: Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"

22 Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times."

Matthew 18:23-35

23 “Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. 24 As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold[a] was brought to him. 25 Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. 26 “At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ 27 The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go. 28 “But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins.[b] He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded.

29 “His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’ 30 “But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. 31 When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. 32 “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. 33 Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ 34 In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

35 “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

4. Commitment - the state or quality of being dedicated to a cause. Even when that engagement or obligation restricts our freedom or consequent actions. (to God, your wife, kids, church, co-workers)

Saying YES to one thing presupposes our NO to everything else.

1 Kings 8:61 -And may your hearts be fully committed to the LORD our God, to live by his decrees and obey his commands, as at this time.”

2 Tim 1:12 - That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day.

Acts 2: 42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts.

Gal 6:9 - Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Josh 24:15 - 14 "Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. 15 And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve,

5. Stewardship – to manage someone else's property. To be responsible, accountable.

1 Cor 4:1 - Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

6. Serving Others –

1 Peter 4:10 - Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

7. Prayer

8. Bible study –

2 Tim 2:15 - Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

9. **Holiness** – sacred, pure, sanctified. Perfect, divine, the focus of worship

Spiritually whole, nothing lacking or missing, complete original, genuine. Set apart from all others

10. **Righteousness** - morally right or justifiable; virtuous. Very good, excellent. Someone who chose to follow the law or stay the course.

11. **Faith** -

Integrity – ethical, honorable, noble, upright. Honest, trustworthy, means what he says, says what he means – what you see is what you get

13. **Joy** -

14. **Obedience** –

Deut 27:10 - Obey the LORD your God and follow his commands and decrees that I give you today.”

Jesus says: “If you love Me, keep My commandments ... He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me ... If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.” John 14:15-24.