*Grace Leadership*

*(Session 2, Day 2)*

*The Character of a Leader*

**1. Quotes on Character**

*“No one will care what you know, until they know that you care.” ~ Howard Hendricks*

*“Character is what you are when nobody is watching.” ~ Unknown*

**2. N.T. Examples of Character**

*2.1 Paul*

Apart from Jesus, Paul is mentioned the most in the New Testament and thus we know a lot about him. His character is on display not only in the things he wrote, but also in what was written about him by others such as Luke in the book of Acts and by Peter in his letters. These sources provide much for us to consider about character in the apostle’s life.

***2.1.1 Humility (1 Cor. 3:5-7)***

• How do you believe this reveals the trait of humility in Paul’s life?

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***2.1.2 Boldness (Gal. 2:11-14)***

While boldness is not a distinctly “Christian” trait, it is necessary for leaders if they will stand for truth and the gospel.

• What might have been at stake for Paul by standing up to Peter?

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***2.1.3 Prayer (Eph. 1:15-23)***

Prayer is essential to every endeavor for Christ, from the smallest to the greatest; because when we pray we acknowledge our dependence on Him. Prayer is an act of confident humility.

• What are some of the distinctive marks of Paul’s praying?

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***2.1.4 Love for People (2 Cor. 11:28-29)***

You cannot serve God or people without a genuine love for both. If you find yourself struggling with love towards people, or someone in particular, ask the Lord to help you in this. Even more, pray for the good of the one you struggle to love and you will begin to see God change your heart.

*2.2 Timothy*

Timothy was Paul’s apprentice, the one he called his, *“true son in the faith.”* This implies a close and deliberate relationship where Paul had significant impact in Timothy’s spiritual life, both for growth and leadership. As we consider Timothy we see what it means to be a disciple and to disciple others.

***2.2.1 A Humble Servant (Col. 1:1; 1 Thess. 1:1, 2 Cor. 1:1; Phil. 1:1)***

Paul includes Timothy in the introduction to many of his letters with a customary greeting which serves to remind the recipients that Timothy is also there by Paul’s side ministering with him. Good leaders do not need to be prominent or in the up-front roles all the time; they are content to serve where and how God calls them to do so.

***2.2.2 Love for People (Phil. 2:19-22)***

***2.2.3 Willingness to deal with difficult people (1 Tim. 3-5)***

***2.2.4 Wise and Discerning (1 Tim. 6:11-12)***

*2.3 The Ladies (Romans 16:1-6)*

Much more is said about the ladies of the church family than might be expected. Let’s consider briefly the record of Romans.

• What are some of the characteristics you notice about these sisters in the faith?

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