

In Search of Secrets

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I. Introduction.

- A. Character is not discussed about much anymore.
- B. Success used to be defined by character.
- C. Today right and wrong is defined by achievement.
- D. God's ultimate goal is not achievement but holiness.
- E. The price we pay for a lack of character comes with our relationships.
- F. Character is the lubricant of relationships.

II. Character is belief in an absolute system of right or wrong combined with the will to do what is right.

- A. Character is not what we do it is what we are.
- B. Jesus sent His Spirit to radically change our character.
- C. God is at work in a believer to produce Christ's character.
- D. We have to make character a priority in order to work with God and not against Him.
- E. Many are guilty of cleaning the outside at the expense of the inside. (Matthew 23)
 - 1. If the inside is cleaned first, the outside will be cleaned also.
 - 2. The pursuit of character is to be made central before any other pursuit.
- F. The power of character is that in time God's plan becomes clear. We may have to pay a high price, but later things will work out.

Application questions:

1. What is some evidence in our culture that character is secondary?

2. What is character?

3. What are some areas that you have struggled to be a man or woman of character in? How can a person become a person of character?
