

**It takes diligence to train our children in good character and praise them each day. However, the end results are worth every sacrifice. This letter has tips to help you at home as you reinforce the character training that your child is learning in our karate classes.**

1. If you invest a few minutes a day and implement some of the ideas in this monthly letter at home you will help your child get SO MUCH MORE out of the time you spend at our school as well as establish patterns for successful behavior as adults.
2. If you do not have interest or time to read this entire newsletter. We encourage you to please take a few seconds and just scan through the different topics.
3. Try it for a month! Print out this newsletter, and then each day pick something to discuss and practice with your children.

**Here is an idea: We have five 'I wills', one scripture, and one definition. That is seven things total. What I try to do is take one of those seven things and discuss it, explain it, and catch my child doing it and applying it that day. Or, if they missed an opportunity to apply it I try to show them how they could have used it. So after one week, I will have reviewed all seven and I repeat it each week of the month.**

**I take very seriously the opportunity you give me by allowing me to partner with you to teach your child the things of God.** So, **I ask and encourage you to help me with your prayers.** Please join us in prayer before and during every class your child attends for God to open his or her eyes, ears, and heart to understand and apply His truth that we will be sharing that day. **Also, please pray for us** that we would be good stewards of the time you have given us with your child and we would be faithful witnesses of our Lord and His word. **Every class, every time, please join with us in prayer. No Prayer – No Power. Much prayer – Much Power.**

### **The Power of a Partnership and Consistency**

**I hope for the chance** to expose your child to sound Biblical Character Training **over a long period of time.** And Lord willing, the longer the term of exposure to this curriculum the **BIGGER** the impact will be on your child and what he or she can achieve in life... **keeping in mind that life is all about the glory of God.**

**And your child will be exposed to this character building curriculum everyday you visit our school!**

**Enjoy the Parent preview below:**

### **BOLDNESS vs. FEARFULNESS Parent Preview**

**Definition for Class:**

**BOLDNESS is CONFIDENCE THAT WHAT I HAVE TO SAY OR DO IS TRUE, RIGHT AND JUST.**

**Other definitions:**

- BOLDNESS is welcoming any suffering that comes from doing what is right because it will produce a greater power of love.
- “The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.” Proverbs 28:1
- “And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.” Rev 12:11
- “We fear men so much because we fear God so little. One fear cures another. When man’s terror scares you, turn your thoughts to the wrath of God.” - William Gurnall
- “Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.” 1 John 4:4
- “who are you that you are afraid of man who dies, of the son of man who is made like grass, and have forgotten the LORD, your Maker, who stretched out the heavens and laid the foundations of the earth” Isaiah 51:12-13

### Application for Home and Life Skills Development:

**WHY TEACH BOLDNESS?** The first step to boldness is knowing what is true, right, and just – things that stand regardless of popular opinion. The second step to boldness is acting upon those principles.

1. I will not be afraid to speak the truth.
2. I will keep a clear conscience.
3. I will support others when they are right.
4. I will be willing to stand alone.
5. I will speak with humility.

### Scripture Memory for class:

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus. **Acts 4:13 (ESV)**

- **Biblical Commentaries on BOLDNESS at bottom of this letter**

### Take Precautions

The best cautions are precautions which help prevent problems before they occur. The following safety measures require extra time, but usually require far less time than the cleanup or repair associated with accidents and injuries.

- Test new things before depending on them.
- Seek the counsel of experienced people.
- Communicate as clearly and completely as possible.
- Confirm that information is reliable.
- Establish emergency procedures and practice drills.
- Maintain emergency and medical supplies.
- Keep a spare tire.
- Make lists and check them twice.

- Use extra packing material around fragile items.
- Measure twice, cut once.

## **The Concept of BOLDNESS**

Boldness implies daring, courage, and confidence. Rather than going with the flow, boldness goes against the tide. It dares to disagree with popular opinion for the sake of affirming what is true, right, and just. When others do wrong, boldness stands for what is right.

Boldness should not be confused with aggressiveness. Aggressiveness promotes selfish goals and seeks to impose personal beliefs upon others. In contrast, bold leaders support the causes of others. They risk life and limb to protect those less fortunate or those threatened with injustice.

Bold leaders also keep watch for those who would lead in a wrong direction. When something is dishonest, wrong, or illegal, bold leaders take a stand. While anyone with aggressiveness can attempt to lead, only those who lead the right direction cause others to prosper.

Boldness requires that choices of behavior be made in advance. Waiting until the situation arises is too late and breeds fearfulness and insecurity.

## **Ways to Praise BOLDNESS**

### **PRAISE CHILDREN FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

- Standing alone when pressured to do wrong.
- Supporting others who do right.
- Explaining why they don't agree with something being talked about.
- Not laughing at inappropriate jokes.
- Walking away from wrong activities.

## **Peer Pressure**

All children face peer pressures. However, those pressures can be used for both good and bad. You can praise your child for applying pressure in the right direction, and also praise them for resisting pressure in the wrong direction.

## **Make the Most of Every Opportunity**

Children desperately seek approval. They seek it from their parents, teachers, friends, and anyone else willing to give them a sense of belonging and worth. This presents an opportunity for every parent and teacher to help guide their children in the right direction by praising them the right way.

## **Illustrations Used in KK4C Class**

Along with teaching and expanding on the above definition, the 'I Wills', and scripture, **BOLDNESS** will be illustrated using:

- **The Character Card of the Month – BOLDNESS in nature with the WOLVERINE.** Despite its reclusive nature in northern wilderness areas, the wolverine is widely known for its great strength and tenacity. If challenged, it shows no sign of fear, but stands its ground regardless of the opposition.
- **Hero's of Character with JOHN QUINCY ADAMS** – As firstborn son of John and Abigail Adams, John Quincy Adams grew up immersed in the truths and principles that formed America's Declaration of Independence and Constitution. Throughout his 70 years of public service, which began at the age of 14, John Quincy Adams held firm to those truths despite great opposition. Perhaps Mr. Adams' greatest work was done in the House of Representatives, where he stood boldly against slavery, 30 years before the Civil War.

### Character Card Tips

Character is useless unless it is a part of everyday life. Use the character cards and join with us in teaching your child the "I wills" by saying, "Here are ways you can practice **BOLDNESS**." Then read the "I wills" on the back of the card.

Then elaborate on each one from your own life sharing personal illustrations of when you did what was right or did something that was wrong. Be sure to emphasize that there were benefits to right choices and consequences to wrong choices.

### Personal Evaluation – How **BOLD** are you in speaking the truth?

1. What Christian leaders are you praying for to have boldness to speak the truth?
2. Have you asked others to pray for you that you will have boldness to witness?
3. Do you wait for opportunities to witness, or do you make them?
4. When people ridicule the Lord, do you defend the truth in a loving way?
5. What good treasures are you putting in your heart that will then be spoken by your tongue?
6. Have you written out your testimony so that you will always be prepared to give a ready answer?

### Personal Evaluation – How **BOLD** are you in the face of death?

1. Have you purposed to die to self and follow Christ? "And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." Luke 9:23 ESV
2. Have you conquered the fear of man by exchanging your reputation for Christ's and choosing to be concerned only that people see Christ in you?
3. Have you dedicated your life to fulfill God's calling, and are you determined to make whatever sacrifices God requires?
4. In what specific ways are you dying to self so others can know Christ?

### Personal Evaluation – How **BOLD** are you in to do exploits for God?

1. Is your heart right before the Lord so He can work mightily through you?
2. Is your goal in life to lead as many people as you can to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and then to disciple them in all the teachings of Christ?
3. What passages of scripture do you regularly meditate on?
4. Has God given you special concern for a certain category of people so that you can meet their needs?

5. When you get to the end of your life, what do you want to look back on, of which you can say, “This is what God accomplished through me?”

### Rewards of BOLDNESS

- **SAFETY** – Fear of what others think may cause a person to lower his or her own standards of good conduct to please them. As a result, this person could be easily deceived and trapped by others. A bold person will keep himself or herself safe from dangerous people.

### BOLDNESS in the Home Includes:

- Consistently living out the character standards the family has set for themselves, even if others do not understand.
- Being ready to explain to those outside the family the family’s commitment to good character.
- Going to one another in a loving spirit when he or she is not demonstrating good character.
- Not being afraid to walk away from friends who are engaged in foolish or harmful activities.

### Biblical Commentaries on BOLDNESS

“Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus.” **Acts 4:13 (ESV)**

**4:13 uneducated and untrained men.** Peter and John were not educated in the rabbinical schools and had no formal training in OT theology.<sup>1</sup>

**Boldness**—*courage; bravery; confidence*

A. *Comes from:*

Righteousness Prov. 28:1

Prayer Eph. 6:18, 19

Fearless preaching Acts 9:26–29

Christ Eph. 3:11, 12; Phil. 1:20

Testimony Phil. 1:14

Communion with God Heb. 4:16

Perfect love 1 John 4:17

B. *Examples of:*

Tribe of Levi Ex. 32:26–28

David 1 Sam. 17:45–49

Three Hebrew men Dan. 3:8–18

Daniel Dan. 6:10–23

The apostles Acts 4:13–31

Paul Acts 9:26–29

Paul, Barnabas Acts 13:46

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<sup>1</sup>MacArthur, J. J. (1997, c1997). *The MacArthur Study Bible* (electronic ed.) (Ac 4:13). Nashville: Word Pub.

Holy boldness honors the gospel. It must be just so with the cross of Christ. Our cowardice has subjected the gospel to contempt. To preach the gospel boldly is to deliver it as such a message ought to be delivered [C. H. Spurgeon, *Feathers for Arrows*, p. 23].<sup>3</sup>

## BOLDNESS, HOLY

**Christ set an example of.**

**John 7:26** But look! He speaks boldly, and they say nothing to Him. Do the rulers know indeed that this is truly the Christ?

**Is through faith in Christ.**

**Eph 3:12** in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.

**Heb 10:19** Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus,

**A characteristic of saints.**

**Prov 28:1** The wicked flee when no one pursues, But the righteous are bold as a lion.

**Produced by**

*Trust in God.*

**Is 50:7** “For the Lord GOD will help Me; Therefore I will not be disgraced; Therefore I have set My face like a flint, And I know that I will not be ashamed.

*The fear of God.*

**Acts 4:19** But Peter and John answered and said to them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge.

**Acts 5:29** But Peter and the *other* apostles answered and said: “We ought to obey God rather than men.

*Faithfulness to God.*

**1 Tim 3:13** For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

**Express your trust in God with.**

**Heb 13:6** So we may boldly say: “*The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?*”

**Have, in prayer.**

**Eph 3:12** in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.

**Heb 4:16** Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**Saints shall have, in judgment.**

**1 John 4:17** Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world.

**Exhortations to.**

**Josh 1:7** Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go.

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<sup>2</sup>Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1995). *Nelson's quick reference topical Bible index*. Nelson's Quick reference (109). Nashville, Tenn.: Thomas Nelson Publishers.

<sup>3</sup>Green, M. P. (1989). *Illustrations for Bilical Preaching : Over 1500 sermon illustrations arranged by topic and indexed exhaustively* (Revised edition of: The expositor's illustration file.). Grand Rapids: Baker Book House.

**2 Chr 19:11** And take notice: Amariah the chief priest *is* over you in all matters of the LORD; and Zebadiah the son of Ishmael, the ruler of the house of Judah, for all the king's matters; also the Levites *will be* officials before you. Behave courageously, and the LORD will be with the good."

**Jer 1:8** Do not be afraid of their faces, For I *am* with you to deliver you," says the LORD.

**Ezek 3:9** Like adamant stone, harder than flint, I have made your forehead; do not be afraid of them, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they *are* a rebellious house."

#### **Pray for.**

**Acts 4:29** Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word,

**Eph 6:19–20** and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, **20** for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

#### **Ministers should exhibit, in**

*Faithfulness to their people.*

**2 Cor 7:4** Great *is* my boldness of speech toward you, great *is* my boasting on your behalf. I am filled with comfort. I am exceedingly joyful in all our tribulation.

**2 Cor 10:1** Now I, Paul, myself am pleading with you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ—who in presence *am* lowly among you, but being absent *am* bold toward you.

*Preaching.*

**Acts 4:31** And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

**Phil 1:14** and most of the brethren in the Lord, having become confident by my chains, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

*Reproving sin.*

**Is 58:1** "Cry aloud, spare not; Lift up your voice like a trumpet; Tell My people their transgression, And the house of Jacob their sins.

**Mic 3:8** But truly I am full of power by the Spirit of the LORD, And of justice and might, To declare to Jacob his transgression And to Israel his sin.

*The face of opposition.*

**Acts 13:46** Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles.

**1 Thess 2:2** But even after we had suffered before and were spitefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much conflict.

#### **Exemplified by**

*Abraham.*

**Gen 18:22–32** Then the men turned away from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD. **23** And Abraham came near and said, "Would You also destroy the righteous with the wicked? **24** Suppose there were fifty righteous within the city; would You also destroy the place and not spare *it* for the fifty righteous that were in it? **25** Far be it from You to do such a thing as this, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked; far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" **26** So the LORD said, "If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes." **27** Then Abraham answered and said, "Indeed now, I who *am but* dust and ashes have taken it upon myself to speak to the Lord: **28** Suppose there were five less than the fifty righteous; would You destroy all of the city for *lack of five*?" So He said, "If I find there fortyfive, I will not destroy *it*." **29** And he spoke to Him yet again and said, "Suppose there should be forty found there?" So He said, "I will not do *it* for the sake of forty." **30** Then he said, "Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Suppose thirty should be found there?" So He said, "I will not do *it* if I find thirty there." **31** And he said, "Indeed now, I have taken it upon myself to speak to

the Lord: Suppose twenty should be found there?" So He said, "I will not destroy *it* for the sake of twenty." **32** Then he said, "Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak but once more: Suppose ten should be found there?" And He said, "I will not destroy *it* for the sake of ten."

*Jacob.*

**Gen 32:24–29** Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day. **25** Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him. **26** And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks." But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!" **27** So He said to him, "What *is* your name?" He said, "Jacob." **28** And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed." **29** Then Jacob asked, saying, "Tell *me* Your name, I pray." And He said, "Why *is it that* you ask about My name?" And He blessed him there.

*Moses.*

**Ex 32:31–32** Then Moses returned to the LORD and said, "Oh, these people have committed a great sin, and have made for themselves a god of gold! **32** Yet now, if You will forgive their sin—but if not, I pray, blot me out of Your book which You have written."

**Ex 33:18** And he said, "Please, show me Your glory."

*Aaron.*

**Num 16:47–48** Then Aaron took *it* as Moses commanded, and ran into the midst of the assembly; and already the plague had begun among the people. So he put in the incense and made atonement for the people. **48** And he stood between the dead and the living; so the plague was stopped.

*David.*

**1 Sam 17:45** Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

*Elijah.*

**1 Kin 18:15** Then Elijah said, "*As* the LORD of hosts lives, before whom I stand, I will surely present myself to him today."

**1 Kin 18:18** And he answered, "I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father's house *have*, in that you have forsaken the commandments of the LORD and have followed the Baals.

*Nehemiah.*

**Neh 6:11** And I said, "Should such a man as I flee? And who *is there* such as I who would go into the temple to save his life? I will not go in!"

*Shadrach.*

**Dan 3:17–18** If that *is the case*, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver *us* from your hand, O king. **18** But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up."

*Daniel.*

**Dan 6:10** Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days.

*Joseph of Arimathea.*

**Mark 15:43** Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent council member, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, coming and taking courage, went in to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.

*Peter and John.*

**Acts 4:8–13** Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders of Israel: **9** If we this day are judged for a good deed *done* to a helpless man, by what means he has been made well, **10** let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole. **11** This is the '*stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.*' **12** Nor is there salvation in any



other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” **13** Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.

*Stephen.*

**Acts 7:51** “You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers *did*, so *do* you.

*Paul.*

**Acts 9:27** But Barnabas took him and brought *him* to the apostles. And he declared to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that He had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.

**Acts 9:29** And he spoke boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus and disputed against the Hellenists, but they attempted to kill him.

**Acts 19:8** And he went into the synagogue and spoke boldly for three months, reasoning and persuading concerning the things of the kingdom of God.

*Barnabas.*

**Acts 14:3** Therefore they stayed there a long time, speaking boldly in the Lord, who was bearing witness to the word of His grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

*Apollos.*

**Acts 18:26** So he began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Aquila and Priscilla heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.

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*Character First! Education Series 3, Booklet 9, Oak Brook, IL;*  
*International Association of Character Cities. (2000). Achieving True Success.*  
*Institute of Basic Life Principles. (2001). The Power of True Success*

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<sup>4</sup>MacArthur, J. (1999). *The MacArthur topical Bible : New King James Version* (164). Nashville, Tenn.: Word Pub.