

## PUNCTUALITY vs. TARDINESS Parent Preview

1. You may not have an interest or time to read this entire newsletter. However, please take a few seconds to scan through the different topics.
2. If you just invest a few minutes a day and implement some of these ideas at home you will be reinforcing the character lessons we will be teaching your child this month. Doing this will truly 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.
3. Try it for a month! Print out this newsletter, and then each day pick something to discuss and practice with your children.
4. It will only take a minute of your time but will make a BIG IMPACT on your child's life.
5. If your child is attending our classes, taking time to go over this material with your child at home.

## The Power of a Partnership and Consistency

**If you desire** to help your child develop a high level of confidence, a polite and respectful attitude and good manners, and a desire to do what is right in the sight of God when faced with tough choices, **then we desire** to partner with you, and Lord willing, with the Grace of God, **make a BIG DIFFERENCE in what your child can achieve in life, school, sports, and relationships with others, all for the Glory of God!**

*Our program is designed to encourage children to apply God's Word to their lives, develop and learn Christ-like character and sports fitness.*

## Definition for Class:

**Punctuality is showing esteem for others by doing the right thing at the right time.**

Other definitions:

Punctuality is demonstrating the worth of people and time by arriving for appointments before they begin.

## Application for Home and Life Skills Development:

Punctuality is not easy. It requires effort. The following "I will" statements we will teach your child this month represent ways your child can honor the importance of time.

1. **I will be at the right place at the right time.**
2. **I will prepare for unexpected delays.**
3. **I will do my work ahead of time.**
4. **I will plan a daily schedule and keep it.**
5. **I will not fall into the trap of "just one more."**

## Scripture Memory for class:

**Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Eph 5:15-16 (ESV)**

Believers then, are to walk (**live**) carefully, so as to be **wise** or skillful and thus please the Lord. The *manner* for this careful, precise walk is **making the right use of every opportunity** (cf. Col. 4:5), and the *reason* for this careful walk is that **the days are evil**. Many are walking in sin, and since the time is short believers must make full use of their time to help turn ‘the lost’ from darkness to light. This necessitates wise conduct.

Walvoord, J. F., Zuck, R. B., & Dallas Theological Seminary. (1983-c1985). *The Bible knowledge commentary : An exposition of the scriptures* (2:639). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

## Character in focus

You can replace stolen money, but you can never replace a stolen moment. Once it’s gone, it’s gone forever.

## Time is Money

Time and money have much in common. Both can be spent. Both can be invested. Both can be lost. Both are susceptible to impulsive spending. Both attract robbers.

Just as thieves steal money, time bandits break in and pilfer minutes and hours out of each day. Being late makes a person a thief of others’ time.

## Praising Punctuality!

To be or not to be....punctual? That is the question. Punctuality is more than just arriving somewhere or completing a project on time. Punctuality requires personal discipline, careful planning, and an esteem for other people. It is helpful to think through the following questions in order to trace punctuality to the unseen character qualities that make it possible.

1. What did your child sacrifice in order to be punctual?
    - a. Did your child set aside any personal goals in order to meet the needs of someone else?
    - b. Did your child overcome inconvenience in order to be on time to an event?
  2. How did your child expend personal effort to be punctual?
    - a. Did your child carefully plan a schedule in order to make the most of his or her time?
    - b. Did your child try to arrive early in order to anticipate any unexpected delays?
  3. Did your child demonstrate any other character qualities required of punctuality?
    - a. Did your child demonstrate efficiency by making the most productive use of his or her time?
    - b. Did your child demonstrate thoroughness by making sure that enough time was allotted for quality work to be done?
    - c. Did your child demonstrate discernment by knowing when to adjust his or her schedule?
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As your child demonstrates punctuality, be sure to praise them for their efficiency, thoroughness, discernment, dependability, orderliness, resourcefulness, responsibility and predictability. They will learn that when they prove themselves as punctual people, others will know they can be counted on as individuals of character.

Make Character Visible. Praise character by focusing on the good.

- Record punctuality rather than tardiness.
- Record completed tasks rather than the one incomplete or not done at all.

The right word spoken at the wrong time can be as damaging as if nothing were said at all. On the other hand, a small gift of praise given in a time of great need is as valuable as larger recognition given at times of lesser need.

## Illustration Used in KK4C Class

Along with teaching and expanding on the above definition, the 'I wills', and scripture, initiative will be illustrated using:

- **The Character Card of the Month – Punctuality in nature with the cliff swallow.** For thousands of years, bird watchers have noticed how cliff swallows observe the cycles of nature and return from their winter feeding grounds with precise timing.
- **Punctuality in History with Abigail Adams** – The American war for independence sent noisy gunfire into quiet hills of Braintree, Massachusetts, home of Abigail Adam. Rather than fleeing, Abigail and her four children remained behind and carried out their usual household routine. In class we will learn how Mrs. Adam's readiness assisted the Minutemen.

## Manners - Remember Those Dates!

Forgetting dates is not good manners. Remembering important dates, however, requires preparation. It takes planning and punctuality.

## 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 punctuality." 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.

To purchase Character Cards click [here](#).

## Personal Evaluation – How PUNCTUAL are you toward God?

1. Do you meet God punctually each morning for prayer and reading scripture?
2. Do you arrive for church early so that you are ready at the appointed time?
3. Do you tithe punctually?

4. Do you quickly do all you can to meet a need that God brings to your attention?
5. Do you seize opportunities to share the Gospel as God directs you?

## Personal Evaluation – How PUNCTUAL are you toward others?

6. Do you arrive punctually for mealtimes and other family gatherings?
7. Do you arrive early at your place of employment?
8. Do you keep appointments that you make with others?
9. Do you promptly pay your bills?
10. Do you write thank-you letters and notes in a timely manner?
11. Do you punctually return books and other items that you borrow?
12. Do you fulfill the promises you have made to others?

## PUNCTUALITY in the Home Includes:

- Giving priority to appointments made with family members.
- Lifting the burdens of family members so they can get where they need to be, on time.
- Being in the car in good time so as not to make the whole family late.
- Family members going to bed on time in order to get up on time the next day.
- Family members promptly responding to letters and phone calls.

## Rewards of PUNCTUALITY

- **RESPECT** – People count the faults of those who keep them waiting – the longer people wait, the more faults they find.
- **EFFICIENCY** – Punctuality avoids the loss of time and energy that results from waiting and allows maximum teamwork for the task at hand.

*Character First! Education Series 2, Booklet 3, Oak Brook, IL  
Achieving True Success  
The Power of True Success*

Adam Schainblatt's Karate Kids For Christ - 10940 Raven Ridge Rd., Ste 118; Raleigh, NC 27614 - (919) 870-0525 [www.Karate-Kids.org](http://www.Karate-Kids.org)