

# VIRTUE PARENT PREVIEW

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## Virtue is ...

the moral excellence and purity of spirit that radiate from my life as I obey God's Word. The proof of faith's reality is the virtue it produces in the life of the believer

## The Concept of Virtue

Virtue motivates a person to resist the impulse to do wrong and take the action to do what is right. Virtue is manifested in many ways. In one instance it may be demonstrated as truthfulness, in another as patience, or in another as obedience. In many respects virtue represents the sum total of all the character qualities.

## Virtue in the Home Includes

- A parent establishing a standard of moral conduct in the family and upholding it by example.
- A parent teaching children to make wise choices about friends, music, and clothing.
- Family members dressing modestly, inside and outside the home.
- Family members filling their minds with uplifting music and good influences.

## Rewards of Virtue

**FAMILY BLESSING** - Parents who keep their eyes from evil and their minds from impure thoughts will not only receive blessing in their own lives but also in the lives of their children. Their own past failures are less likely to be repeated in their children's lives.

**OPPORTUNITIES** - The counsel of those who have overcome past failures is sought by others who are dealing with similar problems.

## The Power of Consistency

When you bring your child to KK4C on a regular basis of two classes per week, we will partner with you and encourage him or her to develop Christ-like character every class.

When you and/or a teacher consistently trains your child to be diligent, honest, and responsible in her life, by God's Grace, she will eventually produce virtue.

It does take consistency! A quiet life of consistent virtue will often have far greater impact on the world than any one-time act of "greatness."

## Input Equals Output

The human mind is like a tape recorder in many ways. Whatever goes in comes out. If a person's actions and words are to be virtuous, the things he or she hears and sees must reflect virtue too.

Much of a virtuous person's good character is a natural overflow of what has been put in from other sources. To prevent outward expressions of poor character, a person of virtue will carefully guard against influences that can damage or pollute the mind or body.

The association a person has with others also has significant effect on his or her behavior and thought patterns - positive or negative.

While we are not called to isolate ourselves from every part of society, it is wise to be surrounded with people of good character and spiritual maturity to motivate and encourage a higher level of virtue.

## Definition for Class:

Virtue is demonstrating honesty and integrity in my life by doing what is right.

## Application for Home:

1. I will do what is right and encourage others to do the same.
2. I will guard my eyes, ears, words and thoughts.
3. I will learn to stand alone.
4. I will abstain from anything which may damage or pollute my mind or my body.
5. I will treat others as I would want them to treat me.

## Scripture Memory

"For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, (2 Peter 1:5 ESV)

## Seek to Praise Everyday!

Because doing what is right may not be the popular thing to do and often attracts criticism, being virtuous can involve tough decisions. Praise is one way to encourage and strengthen those who receive criticism. To demonstrate virtue your child will need the assurance and confidence that they are truly doing what is right.

Correct praise leads to security and well-being: "I appreciate your genuine honesty"; Thanks for being here 5 minutes early. I appreciate your punctuality."

Incorrect praise can create insecurity: "You are so smart." (*But what if I don't do so well on my next test?*)

## Illustration Used in KK4C Class

Along with teaching on the definition, the 'I wills', and 2 Peter 1:5, virtue will be illustrated using:

- The Character Card of the Month - Virtue in nature with the Grape Vine
- Virtue in History with Abraham Lincoln - speaking for freedom.

Do grapevines cry? Yes. When the vinedresser prunes a branch, a colorless drop of fluid collects at the end of each cut. Virtue is illustrated in the "sweat" and "tears" of a grapevine as it grows from a seed to a fruit-producing vine.

Abraham Lincoln's willingness to do what was right, even if required standing alone, equipped him to serve an entire nation.

It is essential that character become 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 virtue." 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 Virtuous are YOU?

1. Do people apologize for profanity or rudeness when you are around?
2. Do others ask you for counsel for the problems they are facing in their lives?
3. Do others want to follow your example in living out the Christian life?
4. Do you thank God for times of suffering and rejoice in them?
5. Do you acknowledge your weaknesses to the Lord in order to experience His power?