

Character

Word Forms:

- character (n) Brian has a good character.
Brian is a man of character.
Brian is quite a character.
- characteristic (n) Name some characteristics of a good husband.
- characterize (v) How would you characterize a good husband?

Related Words:

- personality (n) Beth has a very stubborn personality.
- temperament (n) Terry has a very stable temperament.
- temper (n) Jill has a very bad / short / quick / hot / fiery temper.
- -tempered (adj) Jill is very bad-tempered / short-tempered / quick-tempered / ill-tempered.
- disposition (n) Jack has a very kind disposition.
- nature (n) It's Nancy's nature to help people.
- good-natured (adj) Becky is a very good-natured little girl.
- tendency (n) Frank has a tendency to get angry when people talk about how short he is.

Exercises:

1. Margaret loses her _____ very easily.
2. Wayne has a very strong _____.
3. Everybody's _____ has some good _____ and some bad _____.

Questions:

1. How would you describe your own character or personality, or that of someone else in the group ?
2. What are some personality characteristics that you like in other people? that you don't like in other people?
3. What do you think God's character is like?

Bible Readings:

1. "[God] does no wrong, upright and just is he." (Deuteronomy 32:4, NIV)
2. "God is love." (1 John 4:8, NIV)
3. "The reward for sin is [spiritual] death." (Romans 6:23, God's Word)
4. "But God showed us how much he loved us by having Christ die for us, even though we were sinful." (Romans 5:8, CEV)
5. "[Jesus] has certainly taken upon himself our suffering and carried our sorrows...He was wounded for our rebellious acts. He was crushed for our sins. He was punished so that we could have peace, and we received healing from his wounds." (Isaiah 53:4-5, God's Word)

Questions:

1. What are some words that describe God's character? (readings 1 and 2)
2. Because God is upright and just, what "reward" must he give for sin? (reading 3)

3. Because God is loving, what did he do for us sinful people? (reading 4)
4. Who did God punish for our sins? (reading 5) How does this show both God's justice and his love?