

# Character Traits, from Character Counts!

**Alertness**

Being aware of what is taking place around me so I can have the right responses

**Attentiveness**

Showing the worth of a person or task by giving my undivided concentration

**Availability**

Making my schedule and priorities secondary to the wishes of those I serve

**Benevolence**

Giving to others' basic needs without having as my motive personal reward

**Boldness**

Confidence to say or do what is true, right, and just

**Cautiousness**

Knowing the importance of right timing in accomplishing right actions

**Compassion**

Investing whatever is necessary to heal the hurts of others

**Contentment**

Realizing that true happiness does not depend on material conditions

**Creativity**

Approaching a need, a task, or an idea from a new perspective

**Decisiveness**

The ability to recognize key factors and finalize difficult decisions

**Deference**

Limiting my freedom so I do not offend the tastes of those around me

**Dependability**

Fulfilling what I consented to do, even if it means unexpected sacrifice

**Determination**

Purposing to accomplish right goals at the right time, regardless of the opposition

**Diligence**

Investing all my energy to complete the tasks assigned to me

**Discernment**

Understanding the deeper reasons why things happen

**Discretion**

Recognizing and avoiding words, actions, and attitudes that could bring undesirable consequences

**Endurance** : The inward strength to withstand stress and do my best

**Enthusiasm**

Expressing joy in each task as I give it my best effort

**Faith**

Confidence that actions rooted in good character will yield the best outcome, even when I cannot see how

**Flexibility**

Willingness to change plans or ideas without getting upset

**Forgiveness**

Clearing the record of those who have wronged me and not holding a grudge

**Generosity**

Carefully managing my resources so I can freely give to those in need

**Gentleness**

Showing consideration and personal concern for others

**Gratefulness**

Letting others know by my words and actions how they have benefited my life

**Honor**

Respecting others because of their worth as human beings

**Hospitality**

Cheerfully sharing food, shelter, and friendship with others

**Humility**

Acknowledging that achievement results from the investment of others in my life

**Initiative**

Recognizing and doing what needs to be done before I am asked to do it

**Joyfulness**

Maintaining a good attitude, even when faced with unpleasant conditions

**Justice**

Taking personal responsibility to uphold what is pure, right, and true

**Loyalty**

Using difficult times to demonstrate my commitment to those I serve

**Meekness**

Yielding my expectations in order to benefit others

**Obedience**

Quickly and cheerfully carrying out the direction of those who are responsible for me

**Orderliness**

Arranging myself and my surroundings to achieve greater efficiency

**Patience**

Accepting a difficult situation without giving a deadline to remove it

**Persuasiveness**

Guiding vital truths around another's mental roadblocks

**Punctuality**

Showing respect for other people and their time

**Resourcefulness**

Making wise use of what others might overlook or discard

**Responsibility**

Knowing and doing what is expected of me

**Security**

Structuring my life around that which cannot be destroyed or taken away

**Self-Control**

Rejecting wrong desires and doing what is right

**Sensitivity**

Using my senses to perceive the true attitudes and emotions of others

**Sincerity**

Eagerly doing what is right with transparent motives

**Thoroughness**

Knowing what factors will diminish the effectiveness of my work or words, if neglected

**Thriftiness**

Allowing myself and others to spend only what is necessary

**Tolerance**

Accepting others at different levels of maturity

**Truthfulness**

Earning future trust by accurately reporting past facts

**Virtue**

The moral excellence evident in my life as I consistently do what is right

**Wisdom**

Making practical application of truth in daily decisions

# How to give praise in four easy steps

- 1) Identify the character trait you want to praise or develop.
- 2) Define the character trait
- 3) Give a specific illustration of how the selected character quality was demonstrated.
- 4) Tell how this character trait benefited you and/or others.

Take time to practice this skill of giving praise:

- 1) Look over the list of traits and select one that your child has demonstrated.

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- 2) Write the definition of the trait from the list:

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- 3) Give a specific illustration:

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- 4) Tell how this character trait benefitted you and/or others:

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