



THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Psalm 139:23-24, 1 Corinthians 15:10,
Hebrews 4:13, Psalm 15:1-3, Ruth 3:1-18,
Ruth 4:5-15

DAY 1

Your character is who you truly are. It will affect how much you accomplish in this life. It will determine whether you are worth knowing. It will make or break every one of your relationships. What is true of every living thing is true of your character. Your character is either developing or deteriorating. It is not stagnant. You are not the same person today as you were yesterday. Your life's events have shaped you and depending on your character, those events will either be good or bad.

The measure of a man's or woman's character is not determined by a multiple choice or true false exam. It is an essay test, and the essay takes a lifetime to write. Pastor Bob proposed the question, "If I were to ask you to take a piece of paper and pen and write down reflections on your character, what would you write?"

- **Take a moment and do this.**
- **What do you notice about your reflections? How are you describing your character?**
- **It is important to note that many of us would write what we *want* our character to be versus what it really is. What about you?**

DAY 2

Read: [Psalm 139:23-24](#)

King David made some bold statements in this prayer. He calls upon the Lord to "examine his heart."

- **Why was it important for David to pray this risky prayer?**
- **What did he expect the Lord to discover?**
- **Think for a moment, if you prayed this same prayer, what would the Lord see when it comes to your character being revealed?**

DAY 3

Read [1 Corinthians 15:10](#); [Hebrews 4:13](#);
[Psalm 15:1-3](#)

The development of strong Christian character is the development of a person's heart for God. Your character is who you are when no one else is looking and what you are willing to stand for when someone is looking. Character is who you are striving to be and what you can be trusted with. Integrity is when there is consistency between actions and inner convictions.

Paul writes that our character is developed fully by the power and grace of God which works within us. Yet, it is also a conscious decision we make to bring our mind, heart, and actions into line with God's desire for our life.

- **How is this being done in your life?**
- **What are some examples of how the Holy Spirit is doing his work on your character?**

God knows you inside and out. He knows your secret thoughts and feelings, your dreams and aspirations. God knows where your loyalties are and where your

weaknesses cause you to stumble. He watches you interact with his people and react to circumstances. God looks to see if you are trustworthy and faithful. He can do much through you if your character is right.

- **As the Lord looks into your life, what does he see?**

DAY 4

Read [Ruth 3:1-18](#)

The Book of Ruth illustrates to us the merits of godly character. It is a story filled with example after example of how the character of God is defined and what it is to look like in the life of his disciples. Ruth's story is our story. It casts for us the vision of a life that is in turmoil and the only thing that can bring life back to one that has been wrecked is the touch and commitment of one of great character.

- **What do you observe as you read Ruth's story? How does character come into play?**
- **Describe the persons of Ruth and Naomi. Reflect on their character.**

DAY 5

Read [Ruth 4:5-15](#)

This portion of the Ruth story develops the character of Boaz who is a "kinsman-redeemer." Boaz makes a promise to Ruth to fulfill her redemption but points out there is a male who is closer in bloodline than he. It is the right of that person to take the lead role.

- **Why does the blood relative decline becoming Ruth's kinsman-redeemer? As you ponder this, what does it say about his character?**

- **Describe a time when you were asked to do something and yet after evaluating it, you felt the risk too large and you declined. What does this say about your character?**

Boaz is given the invitation to become the kinsman-redeemer and risks everything to do so.

- **Why is this important? What comes of this and how does this lead to the lineage of Jesus?**

DAY 6

Today is a day of reflection. Think about all you've read and learned this past week. Pray for strength to live with integrity and ask God for guidance in being an example in the merits of godly character.

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