

# **Developing Character**

*Howard Hendricks*

I. The key to leadership and character is endurance to hold up courageously under fire.

- A. One individual starts out the encounters a problem that stops him.
- B. Another is challenged by a problem but he gets criticism and it folds him like an Arab tent.
- C. Another goes further but is stopped by circumstances.
- D. Who becomes the leader? The one who hangs in to the accomplishment of the objective.

II. The characteristics of a Leader

A. The Characteristic of persistence.

- 1. What does it take to stop you?
- 2. The difference between winners and losers?
- 3. Winners are people who have formed the habit of doing things that failures don't like to do.

B. The characteristic of resistance.

- 1. Primarily has to do with actions.
- 2. Resistance against opposition and criticism.
- 3. It is to your credit if you suffer for doing good. (1 Peter 2:20)
- 4. Leadership is a process of developing a thick skin and thin heart instead of a thin skin and a thick heart.

C. The characteristic of servant hood.

- 1. We are constantly afraid of hurting somebody and in the process we are hurting more people than we have any idea. (Matthew 20:24)
- 2. When is the last time you kicked someone out of the nest?
- 3. When is the last time you told someone to go home?

D. A person who is a consistent example.

- 1. Modeling is the greatest unconscious form of learning that we know.
- 2. Are you following Christ? (Philippians 3:17)

#### E. Wealth mastery

1. If you knew you only had six months to live what would you do? Logical answer, exactly what I am doing.
2. Most of us need to be unencumbered by the things that weigh us down. (Hebrews 12:1- 2)
3. The real decisions happen between what is good and what is better, between what is better and what is best.

#### F. A viral private life.

1. Two things you must keep in balance in ministry one is involvement and the other is isolation.
2. No person can do enough for others if that person is constantly surrounded by others.

#### G. Confidence

1. I am no longer impressed with I.Q.
2. Lack of confidence is our number one problem in our culture.
3. Spend some time every day on your kid's team, convincing him that you are sold out that God's got a future for that kid.
4. There are only two groups of people, those who say "I can" and those who say "I can't" and they are both right.
5. Confidence is spawned by the ability to say no. Say no to something so you can play with your kids.

#### H. Teachability

1. Show me a person who is teachable and I will show you a ceiling unlimited.
2. You are not only discipling but being disciplined.

#### I. Positive attitude.

1. There is a danger in becoming negative.
2. Time erodes the spirit and you develop a root of bitterness.
3. The greatest therapy is the therapy of thanksgiving.
4. Negative attitude is product of Satan's Ministry

#### J. Your capacity to believe God

1. The thing that was uppermost in the mind of Jesus Christ in the training of the twelve was the cultivation of their faith.
2. What is there in your life that you are trusting God for that He alone can do?
3. Did you ever ask God why He didn't pick someone sharper than you?  
(2 Corinthians 4:7)
4. I am satisfied that the size of a person's God will not only determine not only the size of his faith but the size of his ministry.