

SINCERITY PARENT PREVIEW

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Sincerity

Sincerity is doing what is right not just on the outside, but on the inside. It is being genuinely good, all the way through. Furthermore, a sincere person does what is right not only when others are watching, but even when there is no one else around. Sincerity is doing what is right all the time in every place.

Absolute sincerity is possible only if a person is committed to keeping a clear conscience. Otherwise, there will always be hidden motives shrouded by a guilty conscience.

Do not try to be someone you are not. Clothing, make up, hair styles, and mannerisms can be used to either accent or mask who you really are.

Ways to Praise

"I appreciate your being ready for school at least 5 minutes early. That shows punctuality."

"You are responsible for keeping your room clean, and you have been very thorough and diligent in doing this job."

"Many of you may not realize all that Mary does. She not only completes her homework every evening, but she helps her family with her sick grandmother every night. She is very dependable and doesn't complain."

AVOID COMPARING PEOPLE. Do not say:

"Bill is the most sincere child I have."

"Dora is the smartest child I have ever seen."

Sincerity in the Home Includes

1. Treating family members the same at home as in public
2. Family members upholding in the home the same standards they represent to others.
3. Sons and daughters doing things of which their parents would approve, even when with friends.
4. Family members discussing people as if those people were present

Rewards of Sincerity

HONOR - To the same degree that people despise hypocrites they honor those who are sincere and have integrity.

TRUST - When people see that our motives are transparent and that we have a sincere desire to do what is right, they will put great trust in what we think and say.

Praising Character vs. Achievement

Consider the following maxim:

The Value of Starting Early - "It is easier to train an infant than to discipline a child. It is easier to discipline a child than to restrain a teenager. It is easier to restrain a teenager than to reform an adult. It is easier to reform an adult than to salvage a society."

Praising children for character while they are young pays great dividends as they grow older, not only in the good it does, but also in the wrong it prevents.

An Ounce of Praise is Worth a Pound of Cure.

This Month's Character

Definition:

Sincerity is eagerly doing what is right with transparent motives.

How Sincere Are You?

1. Are you the same on the outside as you are on the inside?
2. Do you try to hide secret sins?
3. Do you judge others for things you are guilty of?
4. Do you obey outwardly, yet inwardly resist instruction?
5. Do you do good deeds for the praise of men or the glory of God?
6. Do you allow the strength of God to shine through your weaknesses?

Our sincerity will be quickly revealed as we undergo fiery trials.

"Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you."
1 Peter 4:12

Sincerity is letting God shine through our blemishes rather than trying to cover them up.

"A broken and a contrite heart— These, O God, You will not despise." Psalm 51:17

Sincerity is acknowledging obvious faults in order to gain the healing prayers of others.

"Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." James 5:16

I Will:

1. I will be all that I can be.
2. I will take responsibility for my own actions.
3. I will respect others' opinions.
4. I will always mean what I say.
5. I will not take advantage of other people.

Scripture Memory

"Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart" (1 Peter 1:22)

Character Card Tips - Not Just For Rewards



My kids love to collect things. And as I saw my son continue to look at the character cards he has already earned I wondered how much of the material on the back of each card he still remembered.

It was amazing, although he did not remember everything, some of the character traits that we had not discussed for over 4 to 6 months he still knew very well. And a few, if I started him off with a hint of the first word he could say the whole 'I will'.

So I encourage you not to forget about the older character cards. Use them as a review. It is very convenient and it will be a good refresher for both of you!

Another use, show them the animal and ask them if they remember which character trait goes with it...then see what they remember about that animal.