

YPG III

06 October 2018

Theme: Discipleship

Text: Matthew 5: 3 – 10; 2 Peter 1: 1 – 9

Title: “Foundations – Character”

WHY CHARACTER?

1. Character is what makes us like Christ
2. Our character will
 - a. Drive us
 - b. Keep us
 - c. Make us stand out as disciples of Christ

THEOLOGICAL UNDERSTANDING OF “CHARACTER”

1. Description seen in the Beatitudes in Matthew 5: 3 – 10
2. Theological understanding in the Epistles
 - a. Part of the concept of the “new man” (eg. Colossians 3: 1 – 11, Ephesians 4: 17 – 24) (Pauline)
 - b. Part of the “divine nature” (2 Peter 1: 1 – 9) (Petrine)

HOW WE MAY CULTIVATE CHARACTER

2 Peter 1: 1 – 9

1. God allows us to be partakers of the divine nature
 - a. To those who have obtained like precious faith (v1)
 - b. Through His divine power (v3)
 - c. Through great and precious promises of God (v4)
2. Our part in cultivating our character
 - a. Giving all diligence (v5)
 - b. Add to your faith (v5 – 7)
 - i. Virtue

- ii. Knowledge
- iii. Self-control
- iv. Perseverance
- v. Godliness
- vi. Brotherly kindness
- vii. Love

3. The knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ in us will be

- a. Neither barren (v8)
- b. Nor unfruitful (v8)

4. An entrance will be supplied into the kingdom of the Lord Jesus (v11)

ENCOURAGEMENT TO CULTIVATE CHARACTER

- 1. Be a partaker of the divine nature
- 2. Add to your faith
 - a. Diligently
 - b. Constantly