

How do we define character in today's society? Do we define character by the situation we find ourselves in? Do we define character by what is acceptable in the world's view? Do we allow mass media to define what acceptable character traits are? We live in a society that says they believe in the Bible, yet very few seem to follow what the Bible says. We find character traits within the scriptures on how we are live in this present world. The only real problem is that few will actually pick their Bible's up; open them; and read how God desires for us to live. It seems many are content on just listening to the words of their preacher or what they can pick up out of a bulletin article.

Reader, I implore you to open your Bible daily and read the inspired Word of God and see for your self what it says. Until then, here are ten statements found in the Bible that helps us make moral decisions concerning our lives and the hope that resides in each of as Christians.

1. Am I Commanded NOT to do it?
 - a. **James 4:17**, "Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do *it*, to him it is sin."
2. Can I do it for the glory of God?
 - a. **I Corinthians 10:31**, "Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."
3. Can I do it in the name of the Lord?
 - a. **Colossians 3:17**, "And *whatever* you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."
4. Is it of the world?
 - a. **I John 2:15-17**, "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that *is* in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever."
5. Does it have the appearance of evil?
 - a. **I Thessalonians 5:22**, "Abstain from every form of evil."
6. Is it an example of a Christian?
 - a. **I Timothy 4:12**, "Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity."
7. Is it a stumbling block?
 - a. **Romans 14:13**, "Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in *our* brother's way."
8. Would you want your children to do it?
 - a. **Proverbs 22:6**, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."
9. Is there any doubt in your mind about what you are about to do?
 - a. **Romans 14:23**, "But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because *he does* not *eat* from faith; for whatever *is* not from faith is sin."
10. Will it help lead others to Christ?
 - a. **Mark 16:15-16**, "And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶ He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."

Reader, we must never forget the influence we can have on others as we live in this present world. No, we will not be perfect Christian's, but we can do our dead level best to be more Christ like each and every day by renewing our minds daily through God's Word. May we all look to God and His inspired Word to guide us each day.