

**Market Place Ministry Part 5
Forging Godly Character
One Decision At A Time**

Psalms 78:72 (NIV)

⁷² And David shepherded them with integrity of heart; with skillful hands he led them.



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“You cannot dream yourself into a character; you must hammer and forge yourself one.”

James A. Froude

1. Forging Godly character starts with right thinking.

- **Right thinking requires knowing the truth.**

John 8:32 (NIV)

³² Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

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- **Right thinking requires knowing the truth.**

John 14:6 (NIV)

⁶ Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life.

1. Forging Godly character starts with right thinking.

- **Right thinking requires knowing the truth.**

Timothy 1:7 (NIV)

⁷ For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

1. Forging Godly character starts with right thinking.

- **Right thinking requires a renewed mind.**

Romans 12:2 (NIV)

² Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.

1. Forging Godly character starts with right thinking.

- **Right thinking requires that we have personal convictions.**

Ephesians 5:3-4 (NIV)

³ But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. ⁴ Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving.

1. Forging Godly character starts with right thinking.

- **Right thinking requires that we have personal convictions.**

James 5:12 (NIV)

Let your "Yes" be yes, and your "No,"

1. Forging Godly character requires suffering.

Romans 5:3-4 (NIV)

**³ Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance;
⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope.**

2. Forging Godly character requires suffering.

- Suffering temptation tests our convictions.

Genesis 39:9 (NIV)

⁹ No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?"

2. Forging Godly character requires suffering.

- Suffering unfairly tests our renewed mind.

Romans 12:21 (NIV)

²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

3. Forging Godly character requires perseverance.

- God promises to renew our strength if we wait on Him.

Isaiah 40:31 (NKJV)

³¹ But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew *their* strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

3. Forging Godly character requires perseverance.

- We must learn to guard our hearts during times of waiting.

Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)

²³ Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.

3. Forging Godly character requires perseverance.

- We must learn to guard our hearts during times of waiting.
- Luke 6:43-44 (NIV)
- ⁴³ "No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. ⁴⁴ Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thorn bushes, or grapes from briars.

3. Forging Godly character requires perseverance.

- We must learn to guard our hearts during times of waiting.

Luke 6:45 (NIV)

⁴⁵ The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart.