

9-Your Personal Security System

Myles Munroe contends that good character is like a personal security system. It keeps away many failures in life from sin and iniquity by being a guard for what you say and do. He considers good character to equate to a moral force – something that keeps you moral.

He explains it like this:

“We can 'install' character in our lives so that it will work like those security systems. We do this by developing values and establishing a code of ethics that will alert us to, and protect us from, the negative effects of various outside influences – such as life's pressures, difficulties, and temptations. These negative influences can threaten our leadership by invading our lives and stealing our willpower, common sense, and better judgment. Values and ethics also safeguard us from internal 'intruders' – our own human frailties that cause us to rationalize immoral behavior and take ethical shortcuts.”¹

He points out the problem of living a duplicitous life, like the separation of church and state, where most people separate morality from everyday life:

“Many leaders today are attempting, unsuccessfully, to separate the ethics of their personal lives from the responsibilities of their public lives. That approach might seem legitimate on face value. Yet below the surface is this crucial reality: Leadership is not just a role one plays; it is a life one leads.”²

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1 – Myles Munroe (2014) “The Power of Character in Leadership: How Values, Morals, Ethics, and Principles Affect Leaders” Whitaker House p:24-25

2 – Myles Munroe (2014) “The Power of Character in Leadership: How Values, Morals, Ethics, and Principles Affect Leaders” Whitaker House p:24-25