

How To: Strengthen Your Relational Characters

If you desire to become the son you are meant to be, then character development is absolutely critical. You see, we aren't just sons, we are ambassadors for our King, as well as for our Father. This doesn't mean we just represent and speak for the Kingdom, we represent them as well.

We represent Father, and we represent our King.

That means, when they see us they see him/them.¹

If we don't do that properly, we **misrepresent** them and those who see us get the wrong impression of them.

That's actually quite serious. We can effectively misrepresent Almighty God so that people are 'turned off' him. What a slap in the face for us that is!

What's helped me change, and change dramatically, has been my request that the Lord change me. I have actually asked, "Change me", and I do that on a regular basis.

The second, and a more immediate thing, is that I ask for an infilling of godly, inter-relational characters every morning. My focus on these takes my focus off myself and I've had great break-thoughts – plural.

Most of us are self-focused all day long and only interact relationally when a situation comes up. Our days are about my job, my house, my car, my break-time, my relaxation time, my expenditure, etc. Asking for an overflow of godly character focusses me on being Father's representative to others in anticipation of meeting them and impacting them with his Kingdom.

These characters are ones that Father has, and ones that draw people. If I keep repelling others because of my gruffness, critical nature, pride, bossiness, coldness, etc., they won't engage me so they can be impacted.

Here are what I ask for:

- Grace – much grace to become gracious
- Mercy – for others so I'm merciful
- Agapē – overflowing love for others

Try it on a daily basis and see what changes happen in you – but you have to mean it.

NOTE: I also ask for grace for my situations and circumstances so I can administrate them rather than having them dictate to me.

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