

KNOW CHRIST

YOUR WORD IS YOUR BOND



Welcome to the eighth grade! I am so excited for you this year. Not only are you heading into the final year of middle school but you are also "King of the Hill" in school. You are the oldest and wisest of your middle school classmates. Here's the catch, I want you to learn how to wear this leadership well while you have it.

The interesting and perplexing thing about the next year is that at its end you will be transitioning into a role where you are back on the bottom of the "pecking order". Ninth grade will be a complete turn around from where you are today. So, I want to take this time while you have confidence and wisdom and instill some principles in you that you take with you and lean into as you hit the first year of your high school career.

Your Word is Your Bond

As men, we can be measured by many things...

Wealth, Morals, Character, Personality, Accomplishments, Leadership, Work Ethic and Humility.

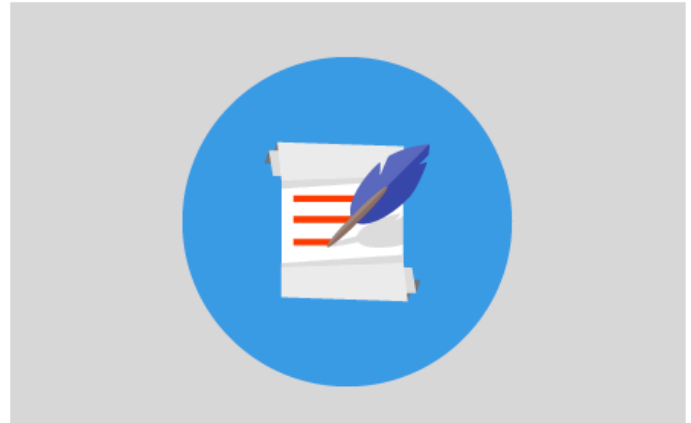
These attributes or characteristics are just a few that come to mind. However, to me, a man is only as good as

his word. Keeping a promise or simply doing what you say you are going to do is such a critical part of being a man of integrity and a man of God. In fact, James says it best with "let your yes be yes and your no be no" (James 5:12). Men in our society will measure you by using "your word" as the first and lasting impression. It is so important to exercise this muscle early and often at this phase in your life. Get familiar with taking "your word" seriously. When you say you are going to do something. Do it. When you say no to something, don't cave. Stick to your word. Your first challenge of the year is to give me your word and stand by it.

Please take the time to read over this agreement and decide if you would like to join me on this journey this year. I have so enjoyed being your leader and we are going to have a blast this year. A real adventure.

In Christ My Brothers,

David and John



Christ's Counsel...

"All you need to say is simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one."
Matthew 5:37 - Excerpt from the Sermon on the Mount

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