

July Character Trait Honesty

Verse of the Month

Proverbs 28:6 (ESV) Better is a poor man who walks in his integrity than a rich man who is crooked in his ways.

Honesty: Telling the truth or able to be trusted and not likely to steal, cheat, or lie; free from fraud or deception – legitimate, truthful, genuine, real

Integrity: The quality of being honest and having strong moral principles that you refuse to change. One of the most impactful quotes I came across while researching this month's character trait was "People lie when the truth doesn't work." The teens we work with have had experiences when the truth did not work for them. However, we need honesty to connect with others. This is where we as mentors go back to the TBRI training. It is all about trust. Our teens need to feel free to be open and honest with another person before they can build a relationship. We can't teach them much without that relationship.

Honesty can sometimes be painful in the moment, but building honest relationships is so worth it. It is extremely freeing when you can be honest with yourself and others. You become more comfortable with who you are as a person, and other people have less power to convince you to do things you don't agree with. Honest people like who they are.





July Character Trait Honesty

Resources

bit.ly/JulyHonesty

"Honesty is very much about the ability to be ourselves.

bit.ly/JulyHonesty2

This link has some activity ideas and worksheets toward the end of the article.

"Honesty is the first chapter in the book of wisdom" - Thomas Jefferson



Mentor Activities

Bring a coloring book and crayons and color with your teen. Add some instrumental music for a relaxed atmosphere. Being open and vulnerable invites honesty. Discuss: How is being honest also being kind to yourself? Kind to others?

https://bit.ly/JulyHonesty3 Ask your teen what they would do with a second chance at living an honest life.

https://bit.ly/JulyHonesty4 Watch Billy Joel sing "Honesty" and ask: "Why is honesty what he needs?" Discuss honesty and trust in different relationships.

https://bit.ly/JulyHonesty5 "How to break the habit of lying (to yourself)." Be real with yourself so you can be real with others. Write down and discuss his three tips at the end of the video.

> https://bit.ly/JulyHonesty6 Watch together and discuss. This is a children's story about the rewards of being honest.