

ROMANS 5:1-5 NLT

¹ Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us. ² Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God's glory.

ROMANS 5:1-5 NLT

³ We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. ⁴ And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. ⁵ And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.

ROMANS 5:4-5 NLT

⁴ And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. ⁵ And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.



The benefit of strength of <u>character</u>

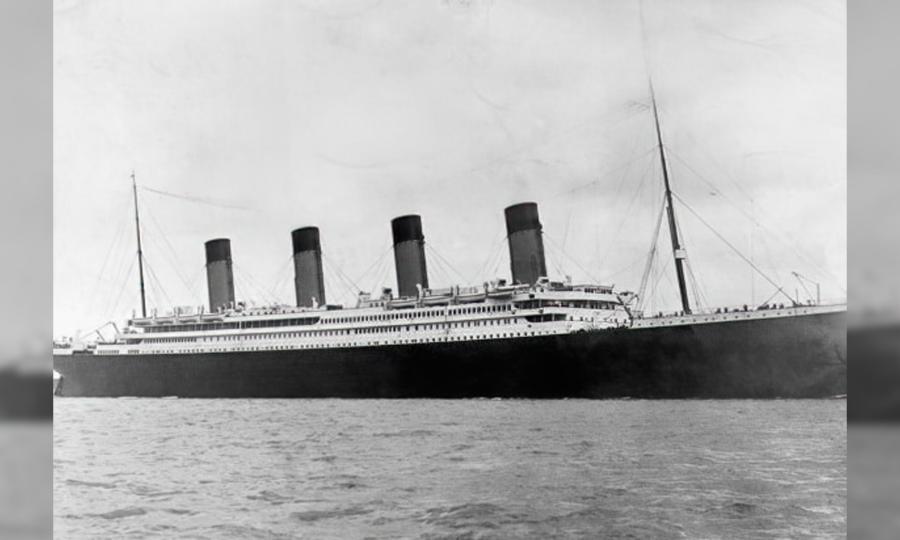
FIRST DEFINITION OF integrity:

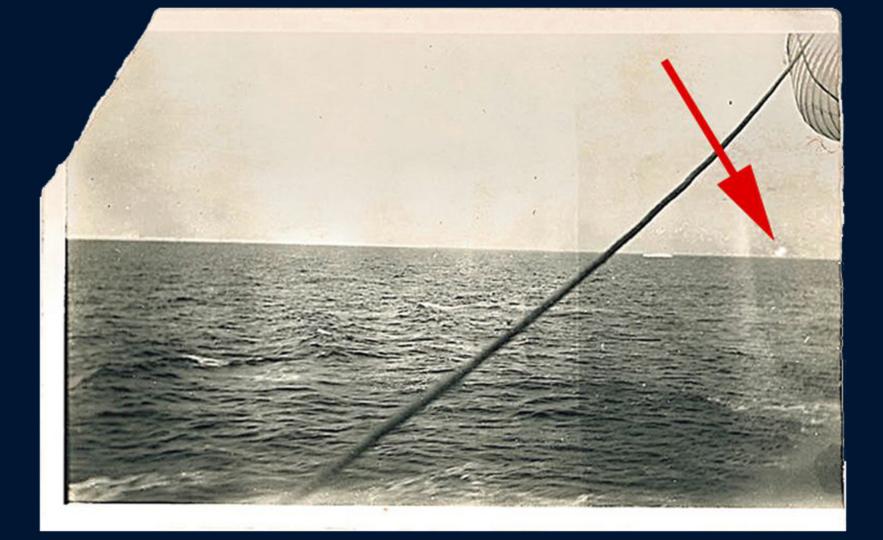
The quality of being honest and having strong moral principles or moral uprightness.

SECOND DEFINITION OF integrity:

The state of being whole or undivided.

The word integrity is the idea of a life of integration, not a life of compartmentalization.







With icebergs, as in our lives, 10% is above the surface and what is seen, 90% is hidden and is in your heart.



PROVERBS 4:23 NLT

Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life. It was not what was above the surface that sunk the Titanic, it was below. Without strength of character our lives, like that great ship, can sink very quickly.



O2 How do we develop character and integrity?

- Through <u>trials</u>.

JAMES 1:2-4 NLT

² Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. ³ For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. ⁴ So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

QUESTION

How is God **shaping** me through this experience?

- Through Holy Spirit interaction.

2 CORINTHIANS 3:18 NLT

¹⁸ So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.

QUESTION

What is the Holy Spirit saying to you and how are you responding?

Through engaging in <u>Spiritual</u> <u>disciplines</u>.

2 PETER 1:5-9 NLT

⁵ In view of all this, make every effort to respond to God's promises. Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge, ⁶ and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient endurance with godliness, ⁷ and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love for everyone.

Through engaging in <u>Spiritual</u> <u>disciplines</u>.

2 PETER 1:5-9 NLT

⁸ The more you grow like this, the more productive and useful you will be in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ But those who fail to develop in this way are shortsighted or blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their old sins.

EXAMPLES OF SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

Prayer Celebration

Fasting Solitude

Submission Guidance

Bible reading and study

Service

Worship

Giving

Community

Simplicity

GALATIANS 6:8 NLT

⁸ Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit.

QUESTION

What spiritual disciplines do you need to engage in to help you develop?

"We should not only want to be merciful, kind, unassuming and patient persons, we should also make plans to become so."

- Dallas Willard