

# Responsibility

vs. Unreliability

## Knowing and doing what both God and others are expecting from me

“So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.” Romans 14:12

### God enables me to . . .

- Know my roles
- Know my duty and do my duty
- Complete my tasks
- Be faithful in small things
- Take good care of things entrusted to me
- Follow the instructions I have been given
- Remember He is watching
- Stop making excuses
- Confess my sins
- Make things right when I do wrong



*Miriam Watches Over Baby Moses*

“Then said [Miriam] to Pharaoh’s daughter, Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee?” Exodus 2:7

# January

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<p><b>December 2015</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>Th</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>					S	M	T	W	Th	F	S		1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			<p><b>February 2016</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>Th</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29						<p><b>KNOW MY ROLES</b></p> <div style="display: flex;"> <div style="flex: 1;"> <p><b>1</b> New Year’s Day</p> <p>✝ Luke 20:22-26 Jesus teaches the responsibility of citizens to pay their taxes and respect the government.</p> </div> <div style="flex: 1;"> <p><b>2</b></p> <p>✠ Proverbs 4:1-4 God has given parents the responsibility to instruct their children in wisdom and understanding.</p> </div> </div>	
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<p><b>3</b></p> <p>📖 I Peter 5:1-3 Elders in the church are to feed the flock of God and live as examples to them.</p>		<p><b>4</b></p> <p>✝ Luke 12:37-40 The Master has charged His servants to watch and wait for His return.</p>		<p><b>5</b></p> <p>✠ Deuteronomy 17:18-20 Kings of Israel were to write out their own copy of God’s Law to learn how God required them to rule.</p>		<p><b>6</b></p> <p>📖 Ephesians 4:15-16 We are to speak the truth in love, thereby building up each other’s faith unto the fullness of Christ.</p>																																																																																						
<p><b>7</b></p> <p>✝ John 17:1-4 Jesus finished all the work that the Father had assigned to Him.</p>			<p><b>8</b></p> <p>✠ Nehemiah 6:15 Against much opposition, Nehemiah completed the task of rebuilding the wall.</p>		<p><b>9</b></p> <p>📖 Acts 20:22-24 Paul was not deterred by the uncertainties and dangers in Jerusalem but was determined to finish his work.</p>																																																																																							
<p><b>10</b></p> <p>✝ Luke 16:10-12 Jesus taught that a person will be tested in small things before being entrusted with greater responsibilities.</p>		<p><b>11</b></p> <p>✠ Genesis 39:3-4, 22 Joseph’s faithfulness in Potiphar’s home and in the prison prepared him for national leadership.</p>		<p><b>12</b></p> <p>📖 Philippians 2:19-23 Paul sent Timothy on special assignments because Timothy had proved himself faithful in small things.</p>		<p><b>13</b></p> <p>✝ John 10:14-15, 28 Jesus lays down His life for His sheep and will not let anyone take them out of His hand.</p>																																																																																						
<p><b>14</b></p> <p>✠ Exodus 2:4-9 Miriam kept a watchful eye on her baby brother Moses.</p>			<p><b>15</b></p> <p>📖 II Corinthians 11:24-28 Paul had great concern for the churches he had planted.</p>		<p><b>16</b></p> <p>✝ John 5:30 Jesus did not do His own will but the will of the Father Who sent Him.</p>																																																																																							
<p><b>17</b></p> <p>✠ Exodus 25:8-9 Moses and the children of Israel built the Tabernacle following the pattern that God gave him.</p>		<p><b>18</b> Martin Luther King Day</p> <p>📖 II Thess. 2:14-15 Paul exhorted the Thessalonians to continue to follow the traditions that they had been taught.</p>		<p><b>19</b></p> <p>✝ Luke 12:1-3 Jesus spoke about the hypocrisy of trying to hide things from God or from others.</p>		<p><b>20</b></p> <p>✠ Genesis 3:6-10 Adam and Eve tried to hide from the Lord when they first sinned.</p>																																																																																						
<p><b>21</b></p> <p>📖 II Corinthians 5:10-11 We will be judged at the Judgment Seat of Christ according to the good or bad deeds we have done.</p>			<p><b>22</b></p> <p>✝ Luke 14:16-20 Many made excuses for rejecting the king’s invitation and missed the great feast that was in store for them.</p>		<p><b>23</b></p> <p>✠ Exodus 32:21-24 When Moses came down from the mountain, Aaron gave excuses for why he had made the golden calf.</p>																																																																																							
<p><b>24</b> 📖 Romans 1:18 Those who reject God’s righteousness will be without excuse in the Day of Judgment.</p>		<p><b>25</b></p> <p>✝ Mark 9:23-27 When the father humbled himself and confessed his sin of unbelief, Jesus healed his demon-possessed son.</p>		<p><b>26</b></p> <p>✠ II Samuel 24:10, 25 King David took responsibility for the seventy thousand deaths caused by his sin of numbering the people.</p>		<p><b>27</b></p> <p>📖 James 5:16 Believers are to confess their faults to one another and pray for one another so that they may be healed.</p>																																																																																						
<p><b>28</b></p> <p>✝ Luke 19:8-9 In response to his salvation, Zacchaeus planned to give to the poor and repay anyone he had cheated.</p>			<p><b>29</b></p> <p>✠ Genesis 32:20-21 Jacob sent gifts ahead to his brother, Esau, in order to pacify his anger and facilitate reconciliation.</p>		<p><b>30</b></p> <p>📖 Ephesians 4:28 Those who steal are instructed to use their hands for good and give to meet the needs of others instead.</p>																																																																																							
<p><b>31</b> ✠ Genesis 50:15-18 Joseph’s brothers offered to serve him to make amends for the wrong they had done to him.</p>		<p><b>MAKE THINGS RIGHT WHEN I DO WRONG</b></p>																																																																																										

# Cautiousness

vs. Rashness

## Knowing how important right timing is in accomplishing right actions

"Also, that the soul be without knowledge, it is not good; and he that hasteth with his feet sinneth." Proverbs 19:2

### God enables me to . . .

- Realize that His ways are higher than mine
- Consider the consequences
- Seek God first
- Learn from others
- Be willing to wait
- Think before I act
- Follow safety rules
- Ask permission
- Speak at the right time
- Watch for danger



# September

*Esther Carefully Makes a Bold Request*

"Let the king and Haman come to the banquet that I shall prepare for them, and I will do to morrow as the king hath said." Esther 5:8b

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				<p><b>1</b></p> <p>† Luke 15:25-32 The resentful older brother could not understand the father's forgiving welcome of the younger brother.</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>☆ Genesis 16:1-4 Abram and Sarai decided to have a child by Hagar rather than wait on God's timing for the promised son.</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>📖 Romans 8:18-25 God uses the sufferings we experience as a means to reveal His glory in us.</p>																																																																																					
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<p><b>4</b></p> <p>† Mark 10:17-23 The rich young ruler did not realize that by walking away from Jesus he was also rejecting eternal life.</p>	<p><b>5</b> Labor Day</p> <p>☆ Proverbs 10:4-5 Slothfulness results in poverty and shame, while diligence brings a reward.</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>📖 Galatians 6:7-8 Sowing to the flesh reaps damage and destruction, but sowing to the Spirit yields a harvest of life.</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>† Mark 8:31-33 Peter did not see the heavenly perspective and in his ignorance rashly rebuked Christ.</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>☆ II Chronicles 16:12 Asa unwisely looked to physicians first instead of seeking the Lord.</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>📖 Acts 13:1-4 As the church leaders fasted and prayed, the Holy Spirit gave them specific direction.</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>† John 20:24-29 Thomas believed once he had seen and touched the resurrected Christ, while we believe in Jesus by faith.</p>																																																																																					
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<p><b>11</b></p> <p>☆ Proverbs 24:6 There is great wisdom in seeking counsel from others and learning from their experiences.</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>📖 I Corinthians 11:1 Paul encouraged others to follow him as he followed Christ.</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>† Matthew 2:19-23 Joseph waited in Egypt until God directed him, through dreams, to take Mary and Jesus to Nazareth.</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>☆ Genesis 25:29-34 Unwilling to wait for food, Esau impulsively sold his birthright, which he later regretted.</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>📖 I Peter 5:1-4 Peter exhorted the elders to feed the flock of God, not for temporal gain but for a future reward.</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>† John 8:3-9 When His enemies tried to trap him, Jesus knelt and wrote on the ground as though He had not heard them.</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>☆ Judges 11:30-40 Jephthah regretted his reckless vow that required him to sacrifice his daughter.</p>																																																																																					
		<p><b>FOLLOW SAFETY RULES</b></p>		<p><b>ASK PERMISSION</b></p>																																																																																							
<p><b>18</b></p> <p>📖 Mark 6:14-29 Herod's foolish promise to Herodias's daughter resulted in the beheading of John the Baptist.</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>† Luke 17:12-14 Jesus instructed the ten lepers to go to a priest, who would certify their cleansing from leprosy.</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>☆ Deuteronomy 22:8 It was the responsibility of one who was building a new house to construct a protective railing on the roof.</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>📖 Acts 27:27-29 As the ship neared land, four anchors were cast to keep the ship from crashing on the rocks.</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>† Luke 23:50-53 With Pilate's permission, Joseph of Arimathea took down the body of Jesus and laid it in a new tomb.</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>☆ I Samuel 23:1-5 David sought the Lord twice about whether he should attack the Philistines and deliver the people of Keilah.</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>📖 Acts 21:37-40 Paul first asked the chief captain for permission to speak and then addressed his accusers in Hebrew.</p>																																																																																					
<p><b>SPEAK AT THE RIGHT TIME</b></p>		<p><b>WATCH FOR DANGER</b></p>																																																																																									
<p><b>25</b></p> <p>† Matthew 7:6 Those who are not ready to hear spiritual truths may reject both the message and the messenger.</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>☆ Job 32:1-4 Elihu waited for the three older men to finish their tirades against Job before speaking himself.</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>📖 I Peter 3:1 Peter advises women to show their husbands their faith by their actions rather than by their words.</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>† John 7:1-14 Aware that the Jewish leaders were seeking to kill Him, Jesus delayed His trip to the feast in Jerusalem.</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>☆ Proverbs 7:6-23 The simple youth went out into the dark street and met a harlot, unaware of the destruction ahead.</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>📖 Acts 9:23-25 To evade the Jews waiting at the gates to kill Paul, the disciples lowered him down the wall in a basket.</p>																																																																																						

# Biblical Character Illustrated

# 2016 Calendar

## Using This Calendar to Learn Character

Each month highlights a character quality that reflects the nature of God. There are ten “God enables me to” statements, giving practical applications of the quality. Daily Scriptures summarize a supporting passage related to the character quality. Passages alternately are from the life of Christ (✝), the Old Testament (✡), and the New Testament (📖).

## One Family’s Testimony

“My wife and I decided to use the 2015 Biblical Character calendar as part of our family devotions this year. We have been memorizing the character quality definition each month and talking about the daily examples from Scripture. We have found the ‘God enables me’ application points to be very practical and helpful for all of us, including our four year-old son.

“One day, as we were learning about persuasiveness, the application being highlighted was ‘Do not argue.’ This impressed our little boy because he likes to argue whenever he is asked to do things, and this is an area we have been working on. Since that day, he still remembers that not arguing is a part of the character lessons he has been learning. Thank you for producing this calendar that helps us grow in character as a family.”

—A Family from Illinois

## Practical ideas for how to begin using this Biblical character calendar

### As an individual:

- Read the daily Scriptures in your personal devotional time.
- Memorize the character quality definition and consider examples from Scripture.
- Mention the character quality in notes, emails, and texts to others.
- Record times when God enabled you to practice the character quality.

### As a family:

- Look up the Scripture references for the day, and read them together as a family.
- Use positive verbal reminders in everyday situations, for example, “What character quality will enable you to take out the trash with a good attitude?”
- At mealtime, share opportunities you had throughout the day to practice the character quality of the month, or have others tell how they have seen the quality exhibited in another person.
- Ask, “How can we work on this as a family?” Write up ideas and evaluate at the end of the month as to how many of the list items were accomplished.

### As a child:

- Study the illustration and explain the picture to your family. Tell them how it relates to the character quality.
- Choose one “God enables me to” statement and practice doing it.
- Write the definition on 3" x 5" cards and post on your bathroom mirror, refrigerator, and interior side of front and back doors.
- Encourage your younger siblings in their character development by your words and example.

### As a teacher:

- Choose a Scripture passage from the calendar for students to act out.
- Use fun ways to memorize the monthly verse together.
- After reading the examples in Scripture, discuss how the people either followed God’s Word or violated it in relation to the “God enables me to” statement.
- Role play real-life situations that display the quality or a lack of it.

Character quality of the month  
Character quality antonym  
Character quality definition

Ten “God enables me to” application points of the character quality

Symbols identify the Scripture of the day as from the life of Christ, the Old Testament, or the New Testament

A different “God enables me to” statement is expounded every three or four days

## Determination

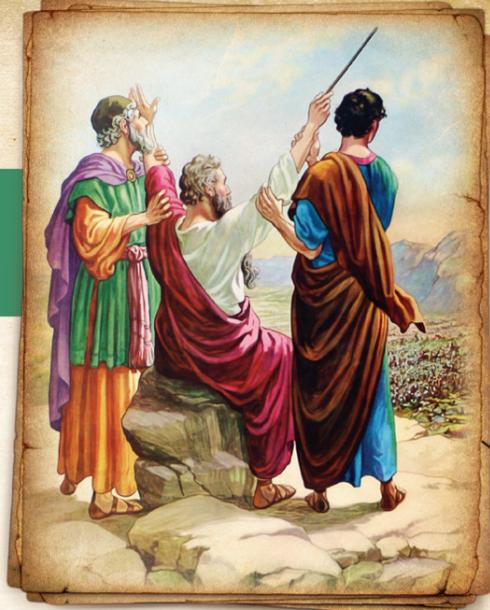
vs. Faintheartedness

**Purposing to accomplish God’s goals in God’s time—regardless of the opposition**

“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness . . .”  
—II Timothy 4:7-8a

**God enables me to . . .**

<input type="checkbox"/> Know my purpose	<input type="checkbox"/> Ignore distractions
<input type="checkbox"/> Keep my eyes on the goal	<input type="checkbox"/> Choose not to be discouraged by others
<input type="checkbox"/> Do whatever it takes	<input type="checkbox"/> Confront problems boldly
<input type="checkbox"/> Stay the course	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare myself for the challenge
<input type="checkbox"/> Set goals	
<input type="checkbox"/> Make sure my methods are right	



*Aaron and Hur Strengthen Moses’ Hands for Victory*  
“When Moses held up his hand . . . Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. . . . Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands . . . steady until the going down of the sun.” Exodus 17:11-12

## June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>1</b> KNOW MY PURPOSE</p> <p>✝ Luke 4:18-21 Christ’s life purpose was confirmed in the Scriptures.</p>			<p><b>2</b> I Samuel 16:1, 13 From the time of his youth, David was called to one day be king over Israel.</p>		<p><b>3</b> I Peter 2:9 As God’s chosen people, we are called to live holy lives that glorify Him.</p>	
<p><b>4</b> KEEP MY EYES ON THE GOAL</p> <p>✝ Matthew 14:28-30 When Peter focused on the wind and the storm, he became afraid and began to sink.</p>			<p><b>5</b> JUDGES 1:27-33 The tribes began to conquer the land of Canaan, but some stopped before the mission was completed.</p>		<p><b>6</b> I Timothy 4:6-8 As the end of his life approached, Paul could confidently say that he had been faithful to God’s calling.</p>	
<p><b>7</b> DO WHATEVER IT TAKES</p> <p>✝ Luke 14:15-24 The master invited other people to his feast when the original guests refused to come.</p>			<p><b>8</b> MARK 4:30-32 Jesus points to the tiny mustard seed to show that even the smallest things can have far-reaching results.</p>		<p><b>9</b> JUDGES 7:19-22 Although greatly outnumbered, Gideon’s 300 men followed God’s instructions and defeated the Midianite army.</p>	
<p><b>10</b> SET GOALS</p> <p>✝ Luke 14:28-30 Before starting a project, we should determine if we have what is needed to complete the task.</p>			<p><b>11</b> Nehemiah 2:1-5 After praying to God, Nehemiah had a clear purpose: to rebuild the city of Jerusalem.</p>		<p><b>12</b> I Timothy 6:11-12 Instead of running after worldly ambitions, we are to diligently pursue the ways of God.</p>	
<p><b>13</b> IGNORE DISTRACTIONS</p> <p>✝ Matthew 10:5-10 Jesus instructed the disciples not to carry money or extra bags so that they could focus on ministry.</p>			<p><b>14</b> CHOOSE NOT TO BE DISCOURAGED BY OTHERS</p> <p>✝ John 9:24-27 The faith of the man born blind remained unshaken despite the inquisition by the Jewish leaders.</p>		<p><b>15</b> CONFRONT PROBLEMS BOLDLY</p> <p>✝ Matthew 15:3-9 Jesus directly addressed the hypocrisy of the Pharisees.</p>	
<p><b>16</b> BOLDLY</p> <p>✝ I Samuel 17:43-49 Trusting in God’s help, David ran toward Goliath, Israel’s challenger.</p>			<p><b>17</b> MAKE SURE MY METHODS ARE RIGHT</p> <p>✝ Genesis 12:11-13 Fearful for his life, Abram asked his wife Sarai to lie by saying she was his sister.</p>		<p><b>18</b> I Timothy 6:11-12 Instead of running after worldly ambitions, we are to diligently pursue the ways of God.</p>	
<p><b>19</b> SET GOALS</p> <p>✝ Hagai 1:2-8 God directed the people to cease building for themselves and to start building His house.</p>			<p><b>20</b> PREPARE MYSELF FOR THE CHALLENGE</p> <p>✝ Luke 22:31-34 Jesus prepared and equipped Peter for a time of testing.</p>		<p><b>21</b> I Corinthians 7:32-35 Paul encourages single believers to consider how they can wholeheartedly pursue Christ without distraction.</p>	
<p><b>22</b> PREPARE MYSELF FOR THE CHALLENGE</p> <p>✝ Galatians 2:4-5 Paul confronted the false believers who were denying believers’ liberty in Jesus.</p>			<p><b>23</b> I Samuel 17:33-36 David’s experiences as he guarded his father’s sheep prepared him for battle against Goliath.</p>		<p><b>24</b> REVELATION 2:10-11 The believers at Smyrna who remained faithful in suffering were promised a crown of life.</p>	
<p><b>25</b> CONFRONT PROBLEMS BOLDLY</p> <p>✝ Matthew 15:3-9 Jesus directly addressed the hypocrisy of the Pharisees.</p>			<p><b>26</b> I Samuel 17:33-36 David’s experiences as he guarded his father’s sheep prepared him for battle against Goliath.</p>		<p><b>27</b> I Corinthians 9:24-27 Like athletes training for a physical race, so believers must discipline themselves for life’s spiritual race.</p>	
<p><b>28</b> I Samuel 17:33-36 David’s experiences as he guarded his father’s sheep prepared him for battle against Goliath.</p>			<p><b>29</b> I Samuel 17:33-36 David’s experiences as he guarded his father’s sheep prepared him for battle against Goliath.</p>		<p><b>30</b> I Corinthians 9:24-27 Like athletes training for a physical race, so believers must discipline themselves for life’s spiritual race.</p>	

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