BINGHAM UNIVERSITY, KARU

*CHRISTIAN WORLDVIEW II*

*(BST204)*

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Medicine & Surgery

*Morality, Values and Characteristics of a good character*

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1. **MORALITY AND VALUE**

* ***Morality***: let’s imagine someone finding a sum of #500,000 in a bag on the way home from their work in the night. What do we think is right for them to do? Should they turn it in and hope for a reward, or keep it to themselves, or just keep it for 24 hours and roll in it for a while before returning it? Well, our answer to that speaks of our morality; of what we think is the right thing to do.

A simple answer to the definition of morality is this; morality itself is a definition, based on human attempt, of what is right and wrong about our actions and thoughts, and what is good and bad about our being who we are.

Morality is usually defined as principles which guide the differentiation between right and wrong. Many Christians, however, define moral actions as either sinful action or God-honoring action. Christians believe that morality is set by God and modeled by His son, Jesus Christ. According to Christian perspective, morality shouldn’t differ from person to person. For some Christians, not only murder, theft, and adultery, but coveting, idolatry, homosexuality, and other actions or lifestyles are considered immoral because of absolute proscriptions set by the Bible.

* ***Values***: values can be defined as those things that are important to or valued by someone. That someone can be an individual or, collectively, an organization. Values are the embodiment of what an organization stands for, and should be the basis for the behavior of its members. Values provide the basis for judgements about what is important for the organization to succeed in its core business. Various sources of Values include: family, friends, religion, school, books, media and internet, culture, employers, time-period of being raised. Some of our most important personal values are formed around the age of ten years.

To buttress our points; values are basic and fundamental beliefs that guide or motivate attitudes or actions. Values in a narrow sense is that which is good, desirable, or worthwhile. Values are the motive behind purposeful action. Personal values are personal beliefs about right and wrong and may or may not be considered moral. Cultural values are values accepted by religions or societies and reflect what is important in each context. ***Values are essential to ethics***.

Christian values are the principles that a follower of Jesus Christ holds as important – the principles of life that Jesus Christ taught, Christian values don’t change over time. They are consistent from generation to generation since their foundation is found in God’s word; the Bible. (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

1. **TRAITS OF A PERSON WITH A GOOD CHARACTER**

***Good character*** includes traits like loyalty, honesty, courage, integrity, fortitude and other important virtues that promote good behavior. A person with good character chooses to do the right thing because he or she believes it is the morally right thing to do so. For a Christian, the fruits of the spirit as stated in Galatians 5:21-22 are used in defining his or her character. Some good character traits are:

* Genuine faith
* Obedience
* Humility
* Selfless love
* Forgiveness
* Self-discipline
* Gratitude
* True worship to God
* Integrity
* Honesty
* Loyalty
* Respectfulness
* Responsibility
* Courage
* Perseverance
* Politeness and many others.