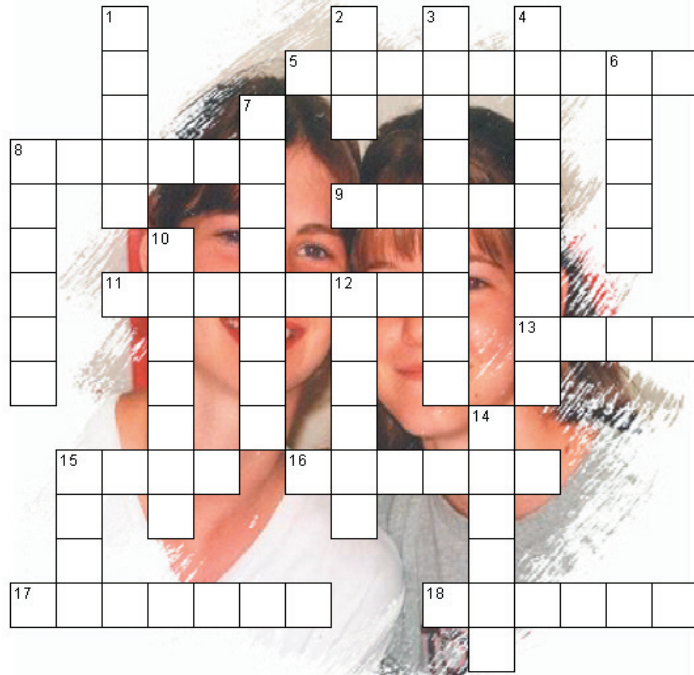


Crossword Puzzle

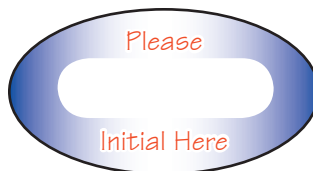


Across

Down

- | | |
|---|--|
| 5. It will be handled _____ and strictly. | 1. The night ____ must not get drowsy. |
| 8. This week's character trait. | 2. To fight a _____, soldiers must be... |
| 9. By nature we are _____. | 3. A strict person takes things _____. |
| 11. We should not be loose and _____. | 4. ...learn to be strict with _____... |
| 13. ...not always looking for the _____ way to do things. | 6. ...many _____ depend on how seriously they do their jobs. |
| 15. Doctors and nurses must be strict with _____ washing. | 7. The same is true for _____... |
| 16. _____ must be followed strictly. | 8. ...not even saying a single word about _____ information... |
| 17. ...soldiers must be _____ to be strict in everything they do. | 10. ...strict with hand _____. |
| 18. ...the night guard must not become drowsy and fall _____. | 12. ...even though this requires more _____ and carefulness... |
| | 14. ...guard must not become _____... |
| | 15. Delilah cut off Samson's _____. |

Parent's Initials:



2-6

Character
- Lesson Four -

Strict - Taking Matters Seriously

I. Overview.

*I*n this lesson we see that we need to build up a character that is strict, with an attitude that takes matters seriously. We should not be loose and careless. We should not simply take the most convenient way of doing things. We should always do things in the proper way, even though this requires more effort and carefulness.



These soldiers must be strict in their training to be ready to defend their nation.

Being this way requires strictness. Strictness is the secret of the best students. Strictness is the necessary character in every soldier if his army is to win the war.

It was because of his looseness that Samson lost his strength. Instead of strictly keeping the secret of his strength, he told it to Delilah and she cut off his hair. It was because of this that he was defeated by his enemies.

II. Memory Verse.

“Not with eye-service as men-pleasers but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the soul.”

(Eph. 6:6)

III. Lesson.

The secret of a strict person is that he takes things seriously. Anything that we count as important and take seriously will not be handled in a careless, loose or irresponsible way. It will be handled very carefully and strictly.



Doctors must be very strict in keeping themselves free from germs.

By Nature We Are Not Strict

By nature we are “loose”. However, by practice and training we may become tightened up in our character and in our way of doing things. Our shoestrings become loose with no effort. To keep them tied tightly requires strictness and watchfulness. Without training people are “easy-going” or loose, and do things in whatever way seems to be the most convenient and easiest. Because they are loose, and not strict, they consider their convenience to be more important than the effort that is required to do their job in a strict way.

Strictness is Very Important

Some hospitals require surgeons to scrub their hands and forearms for ten minutes before surgery, even though they wear sterile gloves and gowns that cover their hands and arms during the operation. Nurses, likewise must be strict with hand washing. A good doctor is one who is strict, who does things properly. He would never scrub for nine minutes just to “save time”. He would always scrub for the full ten minutes to thoroughly remove all the germs from his hands and arms.

Soldiers Must Be Strict

To fight a war, the soldiers must be trained to be strict in everything they do. From shining their shoes to not even saying

a single word about secret information that they may know about. They must be trained to handle everything seriously, for many lives depend on how seriously and strictly they do their jobs. For example, the night guard must not become drowsy and fall asleep. Those with top-secret information must not speak a word about what they know. Orders must be strictly followed.

The same is true for students and for those serving the Lord. The only way to have a success in life is to be strict with ourselves, not always looking for the easy way to do things. If we can learn to be strict with ourselves, we will surely be useful to the Lord.

--- Questions for Discussion ---

1. What is the secret of a strict person?

2. What are some things that we should all learn to be strict about?

3. Are we strict by nature? If not, what are we?"

4. In what way was Samson loose?

