DEVELOPING CHRISTLIKE ATTRIBUTES

INTRODUCE THE PRINCIPLE
At the beginning of His mortal ministry, Jesus Christ walked along the shore of the Sea of Galilee and called out to two fishermen, Peter and Andrew. “Follow me,” He said, “and I will make you fishers of men” (Matthew 4:19; see also Mark 1:17). The Lord has also called you to His work, and He invites you to follow Him. The invitation to follow Christ is an invitation to follow His example and to become like Him.

Becoming more like the Savior will help you lead as the Savior led. Chapter 6 of Preach My Gospel identifies nine Christlike attributes: faith in Jesus Christ, hope, charity and love, virtue, knowledge, patience, humility, diligence, and obedience.

LEARN TOGETHER
Review the Attribute Activity from Preach My Gospel (see also the following page). Identify one Christlike attribute that would help you be better leaders. Discuss the questions and scriptures together.

LIVE WHAT WE ARE LEARNING
Select a Christlike attribute you would like to develop personally. Study passages of scripture in the Attribute Activity. Pray for the Lord to help you develop that quality and note how your efforts help you fulfill your role as a leader. Share your experience with your presidency next time you meet.

LEARN MORE
VIDEO: Sister Mary N. Cook, “Remember This: Kindness Begins with Me”
ATTRIBUTE ACTIVITY

Read each item below carefully. Decide how true that statement is about you, and choose the most appropriate response from the response key. Write your response to each item in your study journal. Spiritual growth is a gradual process, and no one is perfect, so you should expect to rate yourself better on some items than on others.

Response Key  1 = never  2 = sometimes  3 = often  4 = almost always  5 = always

Faith
1. I believe in Christ and accept Him as my Savior. (2 Nephi 25:29)
2. I feel confident that God loves me. (1 Nephi 11:17)
3. I trust the Savior enough to accept His will and do whatever He asks. (1 Nephi 3:7)
4. I firmly believe that through the Atonement of Jesus Christ I can be forgiven of all my sins. (Enos 1:5–8)
5. I have enough faith in Christ to obtain answers to my prayers. (Mormon 27:14)
6. I think about the Savior during the day and remember what He has done for me. (D&C 20:77, 79)
7. I have the faith necessary to help make good things happen in my life or the lives of others. (Ether 12:12)
8. I know by the power of the Holy Ghost that the Book of Mormon is true. (Moroni 10:3–5)
9. I have enough faith in Christ to accomplish anything He wants me to do—even miracles if necessary. (Moroni 7:33)

Hope
10. One of my greatest desires is to inherit eternal life in the celestial kingdom of God. (Moroni 7:41)
11. I am confident that I will have a happy and successful mission. (D&C 31:3–5)
12. I feel peaceful and optimistic about the future. (D&C 59:23)
13. I firmly believe that someday I will dwell with God and become like Him. (Ether 12:4)

Charity and Love
14. I feel a sincere desire for the eternal welfare and happiness of other people. (Moroni 28:3)
15. When I pray, I ask for charity—the pure love of Christ. (Moroni 7:47–48)
16. I try to understand others’ feelings and see their point of view. (Jude 1:22)
17. I forgive others who have offended or wronged me. (Ephesians 4:32)
18. I try to help others when they are struggling or discouraged. (Moroni 18:9)
19. When appropriate, I tell others that I love them and care about them. (Luke 7:12–15)
20. I look for opportunities to serve other people. (Mosiah 2:17)
21. I say positive things about others. (D&C 42:27)
22. I am kind and patient with others, even when they are hard to get along with. (Moroni 7:45)
23. I find joy in others’ achievements. (Alma 17:2–4)

Virtue
24. I am clean and pure in heart. (Psalm 24:3–4)
25. I have no desire to do evil but to do good. (Mosiah 5:2)
26. I am dependable—I do what I say I will do. (Alma 53:20)
27. I focus on righteous, uplifting thoughts and put unwholesome thoughts out of my mind. (D&C 121:45)
28. I repent of my sins and strive to overcome my weaknesses. (D&C 49:26–28)
29. I feel the influence of the Holy Ghost in my life. (D&C 11:12–13)

Knowledge
30. I feel confident in my understanding of gospel doctrines and principles. (Ether 3:19–20)
31. I study the scriptures daily. (John 5:39)
32. I earnestly seek to understand the truth and find answers to my questions. (D&C 6:7)
33. I receive knowledge and guidance through the Spirit. (1 Nephi 4:6)
34. I love and cherish the doctrines and principles of the gospel. (2 Nephi 4:15)

Patience
35. I wait patiently for the blessings and promises of the Lord to be fulfilled. (2 Nephi 10:17)
36. I am able to wait for things without getting upset or frustrated. (Romans 8:25)
37. I am patient and long-suffering with the challenges of being a missionary. (Alma 17:11)
38. I am patient with the faults and weaknesses of others. (Romans 15:1)
39. I am patient with myself and rely on the Lord as I work to overcome my weaknesses. (Ether 12:27)
40. I face adversity and afflictions calmly and hopefully. (Alma 34:40–41)

Humility
41. I am meek and lowly in heart. (Matthew 11:29)
42. I rely on the Lord for help. (Alma 26:12)
43. I am sincerely grateful for the blessings I have received from the Lord. (Alma 7:23)
44. My prayers are earnest and sincere. (Enos 1:4)
45. I appreciate direction from my leaders or teachers. (2 Nephi 9:28)
46. I strive to be submissive to the Lord’s will, whatever it may be. (Mosiah 24:15)

Diligence
47. I work effectively, even when I’m not under pressure or close supervision. (D&C 58:26–27)
48. I focus my efforts on the most important things. (Matthew 23:23)
49. I have a personal prayer at least twice a day. (Alma 34:18–27)
50. I focus my thoughts on my calling as a missionary. (D&C 4:2, 5)
51. I set goals and plan regularly. (D&C 88:119)
52. I work hard until the job is completed successfully. (D&C 10:4)
53. I find joy and satisfaction in my work. (Alma 36:24–25)

Obedience
54. When I pray, I ask for strength to resist temptation and to do what is right. (3 Nephi 18:15)
55. I keep the required commandments to be worthy of a temple recommend. (D&C 57:8)
56. I willingly obey the mission rules and follow the counsel of my leaders. (Hebrews 13:17)
57. I strive to live in accordance with the laws and principles of the gospel. (D&C 41:5)