

## CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SELF-LIFE

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### Christian, Do You Harbor Any Of These Unchristian Characteristics?

- A secret spirit of **pride** or an exalted feeling of yourself in view of your **success** or **position**. Taking pride of your good training, appearance or your natural gifts and abilities. **Entertain a self-reliant, independent spirit?** [Pro. 16:18](#), [Pro. 20:6](#); [Rom. 12:3](#); [James 4:6-8](#).
- Love of human praise; **a secret fondness and desire to be noticed**; love of supremacy; **drawing attention to self** in conversation, appearance, or conduct; a swelling out of self when you have a special open door in public speaking or praying? [John 5:44](#), [John 12:42-43](#); [1Cor. 13:4](#).
- The stirrings of anger or **impatience at others** which you piously call “nervousness” or “holy indignation” ; a touchy, sensitive spirit; a disposition to resent and retaliate when disapproved of, corrected, or contradicted; a desire to throw sharp, heated remarks at another; **a defensive, vindictive, critical spirit?** [Psa. 37:8](#); [Eccl. 7:9](#); [Luke 21:19](#); [James 1:19](#); [Rom. 5:3](#).
- Self-will; **a stubborn**, unteachable spirit; an arguing, talkative spirit; **harsh, sarcastic expressions**; an unyielding, headstrong disposition; refusing or grudgingly admitting wrong; a driving, **commanding spirit**; a disposition to criticize and pick flaws at others when you are set aside and unnoticed; a peevish, fretful spirit; a disposition that loves to be coaxed and humored? [Deut. 1:43](#); [Mal. 2:2](#); [James 3:17](#); [2Pet. 2:10](#).
- Carnal fear; **a man-fearing spirit**; fear of losing worldly, carnal things; **a secret fear of speaking for or being associated with Christ and His word**; a shrinking from reproach and duty; **reasoning around your cross**; a shrinking from doing your whole duty to those of wealth or position or poor and needy; a fearfulness that someone will offend and drive some prominent person away; an undue compromising spirit? [1Sam. 15:24](#); [Pro. 29:25](#); [Gal. 2:12](#); [1John 4:18](#).
- **A jealous disposition**; a secret envy in your heart; **an unpleasant sensation in view of the prosperity and success of others**; a disposition to speak of the **faults and failings** rather than the gifts and virtues of those more talented and appreciated than yourself? [Gen. 26:12-16](#); [1Sam. 18:8-9](#); [Pro. 6:34](#), [Pro. 14:30](#); [Matt. 21:15](#); [Rom. 12:9-10](#).
- A dishonest and deceitful disposition; **the evading and covering of the truth**; the covering up of your real faults; **leaving a better impression of yourself than is strictly true**; false humility; exaggeration, straining the truth; **blaming others alone while you share the blame?** [Psa. 15:2-3](#); [Isa. 29:13](#); [Jer. 17:9](#); [Matt. 23:28](#); [Luke 22:48](#); [Acts 5:2-3](#); [1Tim. 4:2](#).
- Unbelief; **a spirit of discouragement** in times of pressure and opposition; lack of quietness and confidence in God; lack of faith and trust in God; a disposition to worry and complain in the midst of pain, poverty, or at the dispensations of divine Providence; **an overanxious feeling** whether everything will come out all right? [Isa. 7:9](#); [Luke 12:28-30](#); [1Cor. 2:14](#); [2Cor. 5:6](#); [Heb. 11:6](#); [1Pet. 5:7](#).
- Formality and deadness; **lack of compassion and concern for lost souls**; dryness and indifference; **lack of zeal** and power with God? [Matt. 15:14](#); [2Tim. 3:5](#); [Rev. 2:4](#), [Rev. 3:1](#).
- Selfishness; love of ease; love of money; **love of your own time**; value yourself above others; a secret desire for worldly things and ways? [Luke 12:19-21](#); [1Tim. 6:10-11](#); [Amos 6:1-6](#).

**"Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me..."** [Psa. 139:23-24](#)

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