PERSONALITY

One of the most notable characteristics that describe any human being is his personality. We often hear it said: "That person has a very charming personality." Now, just what is personality? It is the sum total of all the qualities that make a person, or distinguish one person from another. It is expressed through the activity of a person and is the core of individuality. Personality is truly ourselves. It is divided between temperament which is physiological and cannot be substantially changed and character which is physiological and depends upon the reason and will of the individual. In the ideal personality both the character and the temperament should work together.

Personality is not a trivial thing, rather, it is an immense thing. It is something that we must work for. We cannot develop a personality in a short time; it takes much time, and thought, and labor. We are all two things: that which we do and that which we are, the latter being the more important of the two. What we are in ourselves will qualify us to stand out among men. Men in society judge us by our personality. It is this that designates whether or not we will make a success in life.

In this business we must realize how important we are to others and to society. It is necessary that we discover what our abilities are, and that we determine the traits or virtues we must acquire. Courtesy makes up a large part of one's personality. We should develop an interest in others, and always be willing to help them in their needs. We must always be mindful of our duties as members of society. To make ourselves pleasing to others, we should care for our physical appearance, and always appear neat and well groomed. Besides appearing physically attractive though, we must also have corresponding moral qualities if we are to present to the world a positive personality. It is also necessary that we develop an appreciation for beauty. Our intellectual abilities must be used, and our talents have to be employed.

To acquire a charming personality, we must be our natural selves, for we are most charming when we are simple, true and natural. We must be sincere, genuine, and truthful. Giving a false impression, and trying to be someone else shows a flaw in one' personality. The formation of

good habits, physical, mental and social, proves to be an open gateway to the development of personality.

Charity is an essential virtue of every human being, and without it our personality is not very attractive. Our personality must be founded upon the life purpose of doing good, and of being of some service to others. Humility is another virtue which is important in deciding whether or not we have a well developed personaltiy. Self-confidence is a requisite if we are to gain any success in this life. If we are inclined to feel inferior, we find it very difficult to make any accomplishments, and thus are of no benefit to society.

In realizing what abilities we possess as individuals, we should consider also that the abilities that we have been given, impose great responsibilities upon us. It is our duty to employ our intellectual abilities, and we should judge ourselves in as much as we employ them. One of the best means to improve our intellect is reading. Reading helps us to develop our senses, our imagination, our will, and our intellect. It will affect that which we do, as well as that which we are. We must learn to make strong and correct decisions concerning right and wrong. We have all been taught what is right, but that is not enough; we must develop our wills by training ourselves to sacrifice anything, rather than fail to do what we know to be right. Moreover, it is necessary for us to learn to control our emotions, and to express them only moderately.

One of great personality never unnecessarily burdens another with his troubles, whether real or imaginary. Our neighbors have sufficient sufferings of their own without carrying ours. A great man or woman avoids self-pity, is not excitable, and is not a continual worrier. This task of acquiring personality, once accomplished, will make of one an unselfish, dependable, cheerful, courageous, and charitable member of society.

Personality is of such importance to us, that if we have it, we don't need anything else; and if we haven't it, it doesn't matter much what else we have.

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No rule is so general, which admits not some exception.

—Robert Burton.