

SALT & LIGHT

Build character and stand up for what you believe

RESPONSIBILITY



"Can't you be more responsible?" You feel as though you've heard it a thousand times. What does that mean anyway? As you get older, you attain certain privileges and rights. But with the perks, comes a certain level of accountability. You get to drive; you put gas in the car and avoid getting tickets. You get to date; you let someone know who you're with, where you're going and come in at a decent hour.

I know it sounds like preaching, but there is a reason you've heard it more than once—don't you think? Maybe it's time to take it in.

Know Yourself

What does being responsible mean? Would you describe yourself as a responsible person? Think of some times when you exhibited responsible behavior and times when you didn't. What happened? How did you feel?

Know the Word

Read: Matthew 24: 45-51

1. According to the reading, which servants will be given more responsibility?
2. What happens to the servant who abuses his authority?
3. How can this reading apply to your life today?

Remember It!: "You may be sure that a servant who is always faithful will be put in charge of everything the master owns." Matthew 24: 47 (CEV)

Read More! (if you dare): 2 Thessalonians 3: 6-11

Know Others

"With Christ in my life, soccer's been put into perspective. There's that stigma on athletes, that if you're a Christian, you're a wimp and you can't be a fierce competitor. It's just the opposite in my eyes, because since I've become a Christian I have this responsibility to show up every day for practice and give 100 percent regardless if I'm not feeling like it."—Mike Clark, a defender with Major League Soccer's (MLS) Columbus Crew. Source: Clem Boyd, *Iron Mike. Sports Spectrum Magazine. March 2001/* <http://www.christianitytoday.com/ss/articles/011001-36.html>, views of the publication do not necessarily reflect those of the American Bible Society.

The Choice is Yours

The next time you go through a rite of passage, think about the tags that go along with it: What will I have to do to maintain this privilege? Be conscious and ask the Lord to help you do the right thing.

It's all a part of growing up. Just think, in a few years you'll be 21, then 25... cool, right? Yeah it is, but there's also the part about rent and bills... So for now enjoy your privileges, knowing that responsibility will help you keep them.

We want to hear your stories concerning the way responsibility has made a difference in your life and the lives of others around you. To share your experience with us, e-mail your account to feedback@bibleresourcecenter.org