



August 2009

Monthly Character e-Bulletin

Building Communities of Character

## Faith (vs. PRESUMPTION)

“Who can separate his faith from his actions, or his belief from his occupations?” This quote from Kahlil Gibran aptly summarizes the definition of faith as it relates to the character trait of the month. To have faith in something or someone is to have “a knowledge within the heart, beyond the reach of proof” and is a strongly held set of beliefs or principles.

The question then becomes, in what do we have faith?

There are many views and belief systems from which one can choose. However, as an advocate for good character and for the purpose of this e-letter, faith means to have ‘confidence that actions rooted in good character will yield the best outcome, even when I cannot see how.’

Putting this to the test, means to do the right thing because it is the right thing to do... even if no one else notices it is the right thing... even if I cannot see the good that will come from me doing the right thing... even if it is difficult to do the right thing, because it is something not accepted by my peers.

Looking back at the meaning of the quotes from Kahlil Gibran, faith determines where we go in life. Those things on which we focus are the very things we live out in our actions and are

indicators of the belief system(s) we have in place to support our lives and habits.

Keeping good character as a focus decision when given the choice, will help us realize the reason for faith to do the right thing, because it is right.



***This month, take our Character Pledge and Commit to:***

- Rely on good principles
- Not take things for granted
- Hope for the best
- Trust those with proven character

## V isions of Character

“Keep your dreams alive. Understand to achieve anything requires faith and belief in yourself, vision, hard work, determination, and dedication. Remember all things are possible for those who believe.” - Gail Devers

For more information visit the Prattville Autauga Character Coalition website at [www.pacharacter.org](http://www.pacharacter.org)

*The mission of Prattville-Autauga Character Coalition is to strengthen our communities by promoting excellence in character for each citizen.*