

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Sunday, October 20, 2024

Lesson Title: Walking in Integrity

Key Verse: Proverbs 10:9 (NIV)

Questions for You

Let me ask you a few questions: Do the people who really know you see you as a person of integrity? That is, when they think of you, they think of honesty, truthfulness, uprightness, reliability and trustworthiness. Do they see these qualities in you? The truth is, everybody thinks something of all of us.

Just a few more questions: What would you **look at** if you knew no one would ever find out? Where would you **go** if you knew no one would ever find out? What would you **do** if you knew no one would ever find out?

Which is stronger in your heart right now, **greed, pride, lust** or **integrity**?

Introduction

Whether you are a teacher, doctor, lawyer, engineer, entrepreneur, journalist, police officer, student, or whatever you may be, integrity is crucial. You should be a person of integrity. A lack of integrity is a huge deficit that will not allow you to reach the height you're supposed to attain.

It doesn't matter the height anyone has risen to, or the success he has achieved, without integrity it will not endure. Lack of integrity will cause demotion and disgrace. It will cause someone to fall from grace. A wise

person will walk and guard his integrity. The Bible says, “A good name is better than precious ointment...” (Ecclesiastes 7:1 (KJV)).

What Does It Mean To Have Integrity?

Integrity refers to a willingness to do what is right in any situation. It is standing strong on the principles of God when no one is looking. It is being honest before God and is the fundamental principle of good character.

Therefore, integrity in Christ is defined as the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles and is an essential aspect of living a godly life.

Proverbs 10:9 (NIV)

Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but whoever takes crooked paths will be found out.

This verse speaks to the importance of integrity and honesty in the way we live our lives. When we choose to walk with integrity, keeping our words and actions aligned with what is right and true, we can move forward without fear or worry. It symbolizes a sense of inner peace and security that comes from living authentically and ethically.

On the other hand, those who choose to take crooked paths, to deceive or manipulate others, will eventually face the consequences of their actions. The truth has a way of coming to light, and those who act deceitfully will ultimately be exposed. This verse serves as a reminder that while taking the easy or dishonest route may seem beneficial in the short term, it will lead to uncertainty and insecurity in the long run.

Reflect on your own actions and choices in light of this verse. Are you walking in integrity, making decisions that align with biblical values and beliefs? Or are you veering towards crooked paths, risking being found out and facing the consequences of dishonesty? Strive to walk securely in the

path of integrity, knowing that it is the foundation for a meaningful and fulfilling life.

Integrity Is a Choice

Integrity is a choice. It is a choice to be truthful, even if it means you may get in trouble. It is a choice not to cheat on a test, even when no one is watching. It is a choice not to watch an inappropriate video, even if people around you think it is no big deal. As we do what God wants of us at all times, in all circumstances, and at all costs, we will become people of integrity.

When you are afraid, you must do right. When you're not afraid, you must do right. When your emotions try to lead you the wrong way, you must do right. When you are among sinners, you must do right. When you're not amongst the sinners, you must do right. When you're among committed Christians, you must do right. And when you're among Christians you can hardly tell apart from the world, you must do right.

When friends stand with you, you must do right. When your friends attack you, you must still do right. When your friends turn on you, despise you, make fun of you, and put you down, you must still maintain integrity.

If your spouse and children stand with you, you must do right. If your spouse and children don't stand with you, you must do right. When it's easy, you must do right. When it's hard, you must do right. When there's no cost, you must do right. When the cost seems high, you must do right. When people like it, you must do right. When people don't like it, you must do right. That's integrity!

If there is anything that is needed in people today, it is that kind of integrity. People simply need to have the resolve in their hearts and souls to say, "I will do right. I may not feel like it. I may not get any support or

encouragement. But, I've got to have integrity and I won't let it go. I've got to do right!"

A person of integrity tells the truth. Period. He tells the truth when he is under oath. He tells the truth when he's not.

Integrity is that thing in a man or a woman that says, "I must and will do that which is right." Period. No question marks.

A cursory glance of God's Word reveals the importance of walking with integrity...

"Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but whoever takes crooked paths will be found out" (Proverbs 10:9 (NIV)).

"The integrity of the upright guides them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity" (Proverbs 11:3 (NIV)).

"Righteousness guards the person of integrity, but wickedness overthrows the sinner" (Proverbs 13:6 (NIV)).

How To Develop Integrity

It starts with "plain" truthfulness before God. As we seek to live with integrity, we must first look to the Lord. He's not just our example of integrity but also the One who empowers us to live honest, upright lives. Integrity is developed by hearing God's Word - which keeps us grounded in the truth and provides practical guidance on what integrity looks like in daily life.

A person that wishes to develop integrity with God works daily through the discipline of living in righteousness. When an individual determines that pleasing God is their chief priority, they are choosing to live a life of integrity!

Walking In Integrity Establishes a Good Name

Walking in integrity establishes the “good name” principle in your life.

According to the bible, “A good name is rather to be chosen than **great riches**, and **loving favor** rather than **silver** and **gold**” (Proverbs 22:1 (KJV)). Also, “A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one’s birth.” (Ecclesiastes 7:1 (KJV)).

Conclusion

God will favor and honor those who walk in godly integrity. He loves those who keep their word. And He can trust those who will not waver in their standards and convictions. God looks at the faithfulness and heart of man.

In the face of challenging times or when your flesh is looking to undermine your integrity, choose the integrity of God. He honors those who operate in integrity. Look at these scriptures: 1 Kings 9:1-5 (KJV) and Psalm 41:11-13 (KJV).

As Christians, we represent God to the people. We do this best by operating in God's integrity. In doing so, we represent God well and are good witnesses for Christ and the Kingdom of God.

The world needs more examples of people who will walk in Integrity.

Name: _____

SUNDAY SCHOOL HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

Lesson: Walking in Integrity

Introduction

1. **Circle the correct answer(s):** A lack of integrity will cause one to:

- a. Not reach the height he/she is supposed to attain
- b. Fall from grace
- c. Experience blessings and favor
- d. Experience demotion and disgrace

2. **Fill in the blanks:** Ecclesiastes 7:1 (KJV) says, "A _____
_____ is better than precious ointment...".

What Does It Mean To Have Integrity?

3. **Circle the correct answer(s):** Integrity is:

- a. A willingness to do what is right in any situation
- b. Standing strong on the principles of God when no one is looking
- c. Being deceitful and dishonest
- d. Being honest before God
- e. The fundamental principle of good character

4. **True or False:** Integrity in Christ is defined as the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles and is an essential aspect of living a godly life.

- a. True
- b. False

5. **Fill in the blanks:** Proverbs 10:9 (NIV) says, “Whoever walks in _____ walks _____, but whoever takes _____ will be found out”.
6. **True or False:** Those who choose to take crooked paths, to deceive or manipulate others will eventually face the consequences of their actions.
- a. True
 - b. False

Integrity Is a Choice

7. **True or False:** Living truthfully with integrity and doing the right thing, no matter the consequences, is a choice.
- a. True
 - b. False
8. **Fill in the blanks:** Proverbs 11:3 (NIV) says, “The _____ of the upright _____ them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity”.

How To Develop Integrity

9. **True or False:** Jesus is not just our example of integrity but He is also the One who empowers us to live honest, upright lives.
- a. True
 - b. False
10. **Write in the answer:** Explain how hearing God’s Word helps us to develop integrity.

Walking In Integrity Establishes a Good Name

11. Write out the scripture: Proverbs 22:1 (KJV) says...

Conclusion

12. True or False: In the face of challenging times or when your flesh is looking to undermine your integrity, you should choose to **follow your flesh**.

- a. True
- b. False

13. True or False: God will favor and honor those who walk in integrity.

- a. True
- b. False