



### **3 - INTEGRITY OF A LEADER**

**Developing the heart and moral compass of the leader.**

#### **SUGGESTED READING**

1. "Spiritual Leadership" by J. Oswald Sanders
2. "The Key to Everything" by Jack Hayford
3. "Manhood 101: How to Be a Man of Courage and Integrity in a World of Compromise" by Edwin Louis Cole

#### **KEY SCRIPTURES**

1. Job 2:3 *Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil? And still he holds fast to his integrity, although you incited Me against him, to destroy him without cause."*
2. Micah 6:8 *He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?*
3. Luke 16:10-13 *He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much. Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in what is another man's, who will give you what is your own?*
4. 1 Peter 2:12 *Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.*

#### **DEFINITION**

1. The dictionary defines integrity as "a firm adherence to a code of moral values, incorruptible, incapable of being bribed or morally corrupted." It is free from deceit or untruthfulness.
2. The Old Testament Hebrew word for integrity means "the condition of being without blemish, completeness, perfection, sincerity, soundness, uprightness, wholeness." Integrity in the New Testament means "honesty and adherence to good works."



- A. Proverbs 11:3 *The integrity of the upright will guide them, but the perversity of the unfaithful will destroy them.* (Also Proverbs 4:25-27, 10:9, 12:22, 19:1, 21:3, 27:6, 28:6)
- 3. Biblical integrity is the result of living with a \_\_\_\_\_, desiring to please God in all we think, say, and do.
  - A. Matthew 22:34-40 *Jesus said to him, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."*

## THE ROOT/FRUIT PRINCIPLE

- 1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of integrity produces right behavior. We do not see the roots of a tree but we can see whether the roots are healthy by the way the tree looks and bears fruit.
  - A. Matthew 7:17-18 *Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit.*
  - B. Psalm 1:3 *He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.*
- 2. The condition of the heart, good or bad, will, in time, reveal itself.
  - A. In the same way that the fruit of a tree is directly related to the health of its roots, so is the fruit (behavior, etc.) of a person's life related to the root (attitudes, thoughts, feelings we deposit or store in our hearts). The condition of a person's heart will manifest itself in our words and behavior.
  - B. Luke 6:43-45 *No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thorn bushes, or grapes from briers. A good (kalos) man brings good out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil (poneros) man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart.* (Matthew 7:15-20)
    - Good — Kalos: Proper, beautiful, inner worth, upright, moral character.
    - Evil — Poneros: Hurtful, anguish, pain, to influence with evil intent (this is the same word as "spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms" in Ephesians 6:13).
    - Stored up — The place where something is kept, a treasure box or chest, storehouse.
  - C. QUESTION ▶ Do you believe that the fruit of our life is the result of the spiritual and moral condition of the heart? How does Matthew 3:10 relate to this?



## THE LIFE OF JOSEPH

There are three people in the Bible who attained high public service positions in a foreign land. All three demonstrated that we can be successful without compromising our faith and integrity even in very challenging times. They were Joseph, Daniel and Nehemiah.

Joseph's years of steadfast reliance on God (Hebrews 11:6) in great trials brought about the restoration of his family and, through his high position in Egypt, he was able to save his family and a future nation from starvation. (Genesis 39:2; 50:20)

Here are lessons we can learn from the life of Joseph as seen in Genesis 37-50.

1. Joseph was motivated on the basis of a \_\_\_\_\_ from the Lord.
  - A. Genesis 37:5-11 *Joseph had a dream... His brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.* (Fulfilled in Genesis 42:6-8)
  - B. Proverbs 29:18 *Where there is no (prophetic) revelation, the people cast off restraint;...*
  - C. QUESTION ▶ Are you motivated and energized by a God-given vision? Can you state it in simple words?
2. Joseph was \_\_\_\_\_ in hard places.
  - A. He was sold into slavery (Genesis 37:3, 28).
  - B. He was falsely accused and imprisoned (Genesis 39:19-22).
  - C. In prison Joseph interpreted a dream which freed the King's cupbearer but was forgotten in prison (Genesis 40:23).
  - D. QUESTION ▶ How do you think Joseph dealt with disappointment? Have you ever been faced with people treating you wrongly? How did you respond?
3. Joseph had a healthy fear of the Lord. He resisted and fled \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. Genesis 39:2-12 *...But he left his cloak in her hand and ran out of the house.*
  - B. There are two ways to deal with temptation: resist (James 4:7) or flee (2 Timothy 2:22). Joseph resisted Potiphar's wife but there came a time for him to flee!
  - C. QUESTION ▶ How do you develop spiritual strength so that when temptation comes you are able to rise victoriously above it?
4. Joseph was not polluted by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. Genesis 39:7-12 *...So Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I hereby put you in charge of the whole land of Egypt."*
  - B. 1 Timothy 6:9-10 *People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money*

*is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.*

- C. QUESTION ► How do you think you would respond if asked to do a questionable ("grey" area) activity for a substantial sum of money, raise or prestige?
- 5. Through all of that, Joseph did not carry a \_\_\_\_\_ against his brothers!
  - A. Genesis 50:15-21 ...*But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.*
  - B. Unresolved bitterness, as the result of unforgiveness, will only grow in strength and has the power to determine our future!
    - When we are bitter God has to work IN us but when we forgive, God can work THROUGH us.
    - If not resolved, Hurt turns to Anger which turns to Bitterness (HAB) and if you don't take care of IT, will turn into a HABIT or a lifestyle of bitterness.
  - C. In Genesis 4:6-7, we read that Cain was hurt, angry and bitter about God's acceptance of Abel's offering. The result was the first murder! God's Word tells us to get rid of it like putrefying garbage (Ephesians 4:31-32) and overcome evil with good (Romans 12:18-21).
  - D. QUESTION ► How would your involvement/leadership in the church be affected if you carried bitterness, unforgiveness or an offense toward others?

For information on offenses, go to our website at DiscipleshipDevelopment.org and type the word, offenses, in the "Search the site" box. The article's title is "Guarding Against the Defilement of an Evil report."

## THE INTEGRITY OF LEADERSHIP



Read Titus 1:5-9, 2:7-8 and 1 Timothy 3:1-13.

Following are a few characteristics taken from Titus 1 and 1 Timothy 3 that are to be a part of a leader's heart of integrity and behavior. It is God's desire that we pursue these qualities and make them a consistent part of our life.

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ When others cannot find something to accuse in us.
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ Serious about spiritual matters.
- 3. Teachable and able to teach others without being offensive and argumentative.
- 4. Not \_\_\_\_\_ As a leader, it is critical in our indulgent culture to take the position of total abstinence. (Proverbs 31:4-7)

5. Not \_\_\_\_\_, a “short fuse” or one who flares up easily and quickly.
  - A. A leader must not be a “fighter” but one who is able to control his or her own spirit.
  - B. A leader must not be someone who destroys the unity of the church because he or she is combative, quarrelsome or struggles against others.
6. Free from the \_\_\_\_\_ A leader is not to use money for status, power or security, not as an end in itself but as a means to accomplish a result.
7. They have a \_\_\_\_\_ and those outside the church view them as characterized by doing good and free from wrongdoing.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ A leader has made the decision to turn from the behavior and mindset of sin and lives his or her life in light of Biblical convictions.

To develop a heart of integrity is undoubtedly one of the most important characteristics of a leader who will endure to the end in victory. This is accomplished through the power of the Holy Spirit as we allow Him to work in us.

Integrity must become a lifestyle, the reality of a person’s character. If we don’t develop a right heart now, we will not have it later as God leads us into more responsibility.

## HOW TO LEAD WITH INTEGRITY

1. We must first \_\_\_\_\_ our own life.
  - A. Is our life characterized by solid Biblical convictions that can not be compromised? If we are indecisive about a Biblical conviction it will only be a matter of time before the enemy provides us with an opportunity to compromise our values.
  - B. Be vigilant with our own thought life as stated in 2 Corinthians 10:3-6 ...*the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.*
  - C. Develop a regular habit of spiritual inventory. The “Personal Revival” sheet in this lesson provides a powerful tool for personal, spiritual inventory.
2. Create a \_\_\_\_\_ in our own life that others can imitate and follow. 1 Corinthians 1:11 *Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.*
3. Learn from the mistakes and failures of other leaders who may have compromised their integrity. Treat those in our care in a redemptive fashion when they make mistakes. (1 Corinthians 10:12)
4. Always celebrate other people’s accomplishments. Be their “cheerleader” by doing the following things...

- A. Expect the best from people you lead.
- B. Establish high standards for excellence.
- C. Create an environment where failure is not fatal.
- D. Help them accomplish their goals.
- E. Recognize and applaud achievement.
- F. Develop an allowance for storms.
- G. Affirm, then correct.
- H. Appeal sparingly to the competitive urge.
- I. Place a premium on team work.




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## GREAT QUOTES

- 1. If you tell the truth you don't have to remember anything. — Mark Twain
- 2. Integrity means that you are the same in public as you are in private. — Joyce Meyer
- 3. With integrity, you have nothing to fear, since you have nothing to hide. — Zig Ziglar
- 4. Edwin Louis Cole quotes
  - A. Integrity is doing the right thing even when you know nobody is watching.
  - B. Attitude determines the altitude of life.
  - C. Being faithful in that which is another man's qualifies us to receive our own.
  - D. Ability to resist temptation is directly proportionate to your submission to God.
  - E. Temptation can be tormenting, but remember: the torment of temptation to sin is nothing to compare with the torment of the consequences of sin.
  - F. You don't drown by falling in the water; you drown by staying there.
  - G. All sin is a form of insanity. Satan is the most insane being of all because he still believes he can defeat God.
  - H. You are committed to what you confess.
  - I. A ton of prayer will not produce what an ounce of obedience will.

## ANSWERS LESSON 3

God focus  
root system

revelation  
faithful  
temptation  
sudden wealth

bitter spirit  
Blameless  
Sober minded  
given to wine

quick tempered  
love of money  
good reputation  
Holy  
examine  
standard



# Christian Life Center Institute LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

## WEEKLY JOURNAL Ephesians 5:16 ...redeeming the time...

Check ✓ each box as you do the activity for that day.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

My accountability partner(s) \_\_\_\_\_

ACTIVITY	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
Personal prayer time							
Bible reading and journaling							
Lesson reading							
Fasting							
Scripture memorization							
Sunday AM and Wednesday PM services							
Accountability meeting							
Volunteer service (Describe)							

## HOMEWORK

1. Study lesson 3, The Integrity of a Leader
2. Read and Journal on "Personal Revival."
3. Memorize Luke 16:10-12
4. Do the weekly time sheet
5. Connect with your accountability partner(s)
6. Other