
Integrity in the Ministry: Working for God with Christlike Character

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Introductory Passage: Philippians 2:15–16

- This passage says that we should be “*blameless and harmless.*”
- This is the standard for ministry.
- This is how Jesus should be presented to the world, by our life and our lips.

- The Greek word translated “*blameless*” can mean unblemished – no obvious spot. Or it can mean literally unable to _____ of something.
- Harmlessness is the relational effect of blamelessness.
- The English word in Philippians 2:15 is translated from a Greek word that describes someone who is innocent or sincere in word and action.
- As such, the person is pure in their actions towards others – without harm or sincere and innocent of _____.

Text: Proverbs 11:3

1. What is Integrity?

- The Hebrew word translated “*integrity*” is derived from another word that means _____ or _____.
- The English word “*integrity*” means the same thing.

- We use the word integrity to speak of pure character in all areas of life – an _____ life.

- When we are not living with integrity, we compartmentalize. (We separate our lives into segments.)
- We have aspects of our lives that don’t _____ with each other.

- Integrity is not sinlessness, but to live a generally honest and pure life allowing God to direct every part.

- The greatest _____ of integrity is what we do when no one is looking.
- Principle: The value we put on your integrity is determined by what we're willing to _____ to give it up.

2. How does integrity guide us?

- When we live with integrity, God develops in our hearts a character that can be _____.

Psalm 37:4 says, *"Delight thyself also in the Lord and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart."*

- When we are seeking God as our chief desire, He works in our hearts to channel His will through our desires.

Philippians 2:13 says *"For it is God which worketh in you both to will [or to want to] and to do of His good pleasure."* (Clarification added.)

- God guides us by giving us a thought, an impression, a longing.
- He gives it to us when we need to know.
- To know God's will, we need to stay in the Word and prayer then let the process of righteous desires naturally develop accompanied by His _____.
- God's will is verified and validated by an increasing substantiation through certain circumstantial indicators.
- **If we stay close to God, He will not let us make a mistake.**
- **He directs our _____ and our _____.**
- He will make sure we find our path.
- God can and will guide us if we are in a position of purity to receive His light.

- This is the great blessing of integrity.

Questions:

- Are you a person of integrity?
- Do you live what you believe in the whole of life?
- Are you compartmentalizing?
- How's your private life?
- Ask God to produce in you a heart of integrity.