

A FAITH KNOWN FOR INTEGRITY

A Faith That Works When Life Doesn't – Part 26

"A person is worth what his reputation is worth." Proverbs 27:21b (NJB)

"A good reputation is more valuable than the most expensive perfume." Ecclesiastes 7:1a (NLT)

"Choose a good reputation over great riches. Being held in high esteem is far better than having silver or gold." Proverbs 22:1 (NLT)

Paul: "...We're being as careful in our reputation with the public as in our reputation with God." 2 Corinthians 8:21 (MSG)

"An elder must be a man whose life cannot be spoken against. He must be faithful to his wife. He must exhibit self-control, live wisely, and have a good reputation... Also, he must have a good reputation with people outside the church who speak well of him so that he can't be disgraced and trapped by Satan." 1 Timothy 3:2, 7 (NLT)

"In the same way, deacons must be people who are respected and have integrity... First, they must be evaluated. Then, if they have a good reputation, they may become deacons." 1 Timothy 3:8, 10 (NLT)

HOW TO BECOME KNOWN FOR INTEGRITY

1. _____
"Above all, my brothers and sisters, don't swear by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Just let your 'Yes' be yes and let your 'No' be no – just say what you mean. Do this so you can't be judged and condemned." James 5:12

Paul: "Am I like the people of the world who say yes when they really mean no? As surely as God is true, I am not that sort of person! My yes means yes because Jesus Christ, the Son of God, never wavers between yes and no!" 2 Corinthians 1:17b-19a (NLT)

Jesus: "I tell you to never swear by heaven, which is God's throne, or by the earth, which is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, his great city, or even by the hair on your head, because you can't turn one hair white or black. Just say a simple 'Yes' if you mean yes or 'No' when you mean no. Your word should be enough. Anything more than that is from the Evil One." Matthew 5:34-37

2. _____
"Someone who holds back the truth causes trouble..." Proverbs 10:10 (TEV)

"Why are you lying? Do you think your lies will benefit God?" Job 13:7 (TEV)
"In the end people appreciate frankness more than flattery." Proverbs 28:23 (LB)

3.

“Speak the truth in a spirit of love...” Ephesians 4:15 (TEV)

“Speak ONLY what is helpful for building others up, according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.” Ephesians 4:29

“Thoughtless words can wound as deeply as any sword, but wisely spoken words can heal.” Proverbs 12:18 (TEV)

“Intelligent people think before they speak...” Proverbs 16:23 (TEV)

“There is a right time and a right way to do everything...” Ecclesiastes 8:6 (TEV)

4.

“LET OUR LIVES lovingly express the truth in all things – speaking truly, dealing truly, living truly.” Ephesians 4:15 (Amp)

“People who can’t be trusted are destroyed by their own dishonesty.” Proverbs 11:3 (TEV)

“David shepherded the people with integrity of heart; and with skillful hands he led them.” Psalm 78:72 (NIV)

DAVID’S COMMITMENT TO PERSONAL INTEGRITY

*[1] I will sing of your love and justice, LORD.
I will praise you with songs.*

*[2] I will be careful to live a blameless life—
when will you come to help me?
I will lead a life of integrity
in my own home.*

*[3] I will refuse to look at
anything vile and vulgar.
I hate all who deal crookedly;
I will have nothing to do with them.*

*[4] I will reject perverse ideas
and stay away from every evil.*

*[5] I will not tolerate people who slander their neighbors.
I will not endure conceit and pride.*

*[6] I will search for faithful people
to be my companions.*

*Only those who are above reproach
will be allowed to serve me.*

*[7] I will not allow deceivers to serve in my house,
and liars will not stay in my presence. Psalms 101:1-7 (NLT)*