



# onechurch

## bigIdea



Consistency. Whether it's in music, or sports, or public speaking, any other realm, consistency is something we strive for. A college football team is wanting a quarterback who's consistent. A pitcher in baseball needs to be consistent in how he throws the baseball. As Christians, God calls us to live lives of consistency and integrity. If we live consistent lives of devotion to God, you will find more and more opportunities in which God will move mightily in your circumstances. Why? Because God takes full responsibility for a life completely devoted to Him.

**BIG IDEA:** When we live lives of consistency, we set the stage for God to move mightily.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Who is one person who left a legacy that has inspired you in your life? Why did they make such an impact?
2. As you consider the overall impact of your life, what do you want your legacy to be?
3. How well are you doing at putting yourself in a place where God can use you?
4. What is one change you could make or something you'd like to continue doing that would put you in a better position for God to use?
5. *Read Daniel 6:1-3.* What do these verses tell us about Daniel's attitude and conduct?
6. Pastor Chris told us that Daniel was a man who stuck to his principles. Can you think of any examples from Daniel's life that confirms this claim?
7. Not only did Daniel stick to his principles but he also stepped out in faith. Have you ever stepped out in faith when it seemed scary, but found the results to be positive in the end?
8. *Read Daniel 6:4-9.* What motivated Daniel's enemies to move against Daniel? In what other stories that we have read in the first 6 chapters of Daniel has jealousy played a part?
9. *Read Daniel 6:10-16.* Pastor Chris showed us from Daniel's story that he was a man of prayer. What does it look like to be a person of prayer?
10. What are some of the common obstacles that you allow to stand in the way of your continual conversation with God?
11. *Read Daniel 6:17-28.* In order for Daniel to stay true to God, he had to be thrown into the lion's den because he refused to stop praying. In our lives there are some "lions" that we must face if we're to walk with God on a daily basis such as estrangement from others, possible ridicule and the like. What are some of these "lions" in your life and how do you deal with them?
12. Ultimately, Daniel's life is remembered because he was a man who stepped out in faith. How is God calling you to step out in faith and what are some of the next steps to pursue what he has for you?
13. Is there anything in your life you need to address in order to take a step closer to living a life characterized by consistency & integrity?
14. We've seen in this series how Daniel was a man of integrity in spite of his circumstances. His life and words were consistent with what he believed. What challenges to living a life of integrity do we face in our society?
15. Have you seen or experienced any positive or negative consequences from living a life of integrity? If so, what were they?
16. Chris talked this weekend about developing a lifestyle of usefulness. Can you think of someone you know personally who has shown themselves to be useful for God? What actions or character qualities contributed to their usefulness?



## DIGGING DEEPER

1. God desires for us to live out integrity in every facet of our lives. Read the following passages and write down what integrity looks like in each of the situations.
  - Colossians 3:22-24
  - Genesis 39:1-12In Genesis 31:38-42, Jacob defends his integrity during a conversation with his father-in-law. How do you see Jacob's integrity revealed in this passage?
2. What do you think motivated Joseph and Jacob to act with integrity?
3. When do you find it hardest to live with integrity?
4. We heard this weekend how past faithfulness is preparation for future faithfulness. Faithfulness means we persevere in doing what we know is right or what we've committed to do regardless of the cost, difficulty, or outcome. What encouragement do you find in the following passages to persevere through difficult times?
  - Galatians 5:9-10
  - 2 Corinthians 4:16-18
  - James 1:2-5Has there been a time in your life when you were tempted to doubt God's faithfulness because of the obstacles or challenges you faced?
5. Rather than view themselves as slaves to the various kings they served, Daniel and his friends consistently viewed themselves as servants of God. Maintaining a similar perspective is one of the keys to usefulness. What do the following passages say about the kind of mindset that we should strive for as servants of God?
  - Luke 17:7-10
  - Matthew 20:20-28What do you find most challenging about the attitude expressed in these verses?

## THINK ABOUT IT

Integrity is one of the most important character qualities to develop in your personal life. For all of us, it is vital, as it is part of the foundation of all credibility and influence. Integrity means that there is an integration between who we really are (when no one is looking) and who we appear to be to others. When we hear the word 'integrity' we think of things such as, 'authenticity', 'who you are when no one is looking', 'how you treat those who are not present' and 'living an integrated life' where there is no gap between what we project on the outside and who we really are on the inside.

## MOVING FORWARD

Brian Maclaren said, "The world may not know the intricacies of doctrine or the intimacies of worship with God but they can tell a bad temper, selfishness, conceitedness or dishonesty when they see it. The world is a very poor critic of my Christianity, but it is a very sufficient one of my conduct." This past week, what has your conduct said about your Christianity? Have you represented Jesus well? If not, what do you need to change to live a life of consistency and integrity?

## CHANGING YOUR MIND

*"Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?" Daniel 6:20*

