

November 1st – The Value of Integrity

“Better is the poor who walks in his integrity than one perverse in his ways, though he be rich.”
(Prov. 28:6)

We’ve all heard of the “American Dream.” We’ve been told that it’s all about hard work and dedication, and that if you work hard enough you will be prosperous. Prosperity is something that drives the majority of Americans. Let’s face it – we want to make a lot of money so we can buy big houses and drive nice cars. We want to take nice vacations and play with big toys. We want to put back lots of money in our retirement accounts and 401(k).

Sadly, many have allowed their lust for money to compromise their convictions. Think about it – how many people have ever lied to get a promotion or earn more money for the company? How many people have stepped on the back of a coworker as they climbed the corporate ladder? I’ve even heard stories of employees who began a sexual relationship with a boss just so that boss would look favorably on them and promote them before others.

Today’s verse reminds us that integrity is much more important than wealth. Jesus said it like this: “For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?” (Matt. 16:26). We can have everything the world affords, but if we don’t have Jesus we have nothing. Even as children of God, we can get swept up in the rat race. Let’s make a vow that we will not compromise our integrity on the altar of wealth and the American Dream.