

PERSONAL INTEGRITY

What does integrity mean?

From integer, all the same, of one piece-- What you see is what you get.

1 John.1: ⁵This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. ⁷But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all^o sin. ⁸If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.

Transparency is a key word.

Daniel 1 is a one of many examples of God's formation of integrity.

Daniel had many deep hardships, but was able to obey God through them all.

The big test came through a small requirement with apparently fatal consequences.

He made the decision to obey God regardless of the cost.

THEN God gave him favor, wisdom and insight.

Integrity is forged through hardship and "the little issues".

Luke 16: ¹⁰"Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.

Develop disciplines in the secret place and you will grow in integrity.

Your ability to lead people is directly related to how they perceive your integrity.

You can lead out of positional authority, but leading from spiritual/moral authority is much more effective and is the example Jesus set for us.

What are the common integrity tests for a base leader??

Financial (covered as a separate topic)

Trying to get people to go on outreach, but the leader avoiding it.

Creating special privileges that no one else has.

Not being there for prayer and worship.

Missing work days or other mundane tasks.

You can take new ground by humility and public confession.