

A Man of Integrity

Lesson Summary: David was greatly used of God because he was a man of Integrity – a value in short supply today.

Idea: We need to be single-minded

Defining Integrity

A person of integrity is:

Whole-hearted	Pure	Incorruptible
Complete	He doesn't have a divided heart	Has nothing to hide
Honest	Transparent	whole

Integrity – Webster's 1828 Dictionary

1. Wholeness; entireness; unbroken state.
2. The entire, unimpaired state of any thing, particularly of the mind; moral soundness or purity; incorruptness; uprightness; honesty. Integrity comprehends the whole moral character, but has a special reference to uprightness in mutual dealings
3. Purity; genuine, unadulterated, unimpaired state

Used only 16 times in the Bible – OT only

Hebrew: Completeness – Usually (morally)innocence

Perfect (ion) – Upright (-ly, -ness)

Root Meaning:

Accomplished	Be clean	Consume
Perfect	Be spent	Whole
Be upright	Be wasted	

How does consume relate to “integrity” or “wholeheartedness”?

Consume – means to be total burnt up - So that nothing remains

Does not God want us to be totally consumed with Him, so that there is no room in our lives for other things?

In summary – Integrity is :

1. A **heart** that is wholly set upon God and His righteousness

- a. Consumed by God
 - b. Pure
 - c. Matt 6:19-21, 22:37
2. A **mind** that is wholly fixed upon that which is pure
 - a. Matt 6:22-23, James 1:8
 3. A **will** that seek to serve only one master Matt 6:24

The Blessings of Integrity

It's great to know that David was a man of integrity

It's even good to know how the Bible defines integrity

However – it's better to know that God blesses people of integrity

At the same time God hates a divided heart

He will bless a whole-hearted Christian

What does God say about the blessings God has for a person of Integrity?

The 6 Blessings of Integrity

1. **Psalm 25:21** Let integrity and uprightness preserve me; for I wait on thee.
2. **Psalm 26:1** Judge me, O LORD; for I have walked in mine integrity: I have trusted also in the LORD; *therefore* I shall not slide.
3. **Proverbs 11:3** The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.
4. **Proverbs 20:7** The just *man* walketh in his integrity: his children *are* blessed after him.
5. **Psalm 84:11** For the LORD God *is* a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good *thing* will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.
6. **Psalm 119:1** Blessed *are* the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD.

What about you?

Do you have a single heart for God or is your heart divided?

Remember, integrity means that I am wholehearted, single minded, and have one Master in my life.

Integrity involves the entire person:

The heart – the mind – and the will

How can you tell if you have integrity?

Answer these 4 questions:

1. Am I wholehearted?

- a. A divided heart is one that lives for the things on this earth Matt 6:19-21
- b. A heart of integrity is one that puts all its treasure in heaven
- c. Where is your heart?
- d. "A person with integrity doesn't try to love God and the world at the same time"
 - i. His heart and his treasure are in heaven

2. Am I single-minded?

- a. You can answer this question by reading Phil 4:8
 - i. Does your thought life pass this test?
 - ii. Are you single-minded in your thought life?

3. How many masters do you have?

- a. Mammon – was the Syrian deity god of riches – Matt 6:24-33
 - i. A person cannot be controlled by God and by materialism
 - ii. This is a divided life
 - iii. Our life is often so full of care and concern, that we have little time for God
 - iv. This is double-mindedness – it is the opposite of integrity
- b. How might your life be different if you only had one master?

4. What idols keep me from being wholehearted?

- a. Think of Solomon
 - i. Milcom & Ashtoreth kept him from being wholehearted
- b. What idols do we have?
 - i. A sport
 - ii. A job
 - iii. A car
 - iv. Money – clothes
- c. Any of these can be idols
- d. Even our family can keep us from being totally sold out!

Was it different when it came to idols in David's time?

No! Basically the same, we just have more technology that pulls us away for God