

## INTEGRITY PART III

### “TRUTH”

SCRIPTURE: JOHN 8, EPHESIANS 4, PSALM 15

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#### INTRODUCTION

- In week 1, Integrity is a result of self-discipline, inner trust, and a decision to be honest in all situations.
- In week 2, Integrity is more than keeping your word; it's the state of being complete, unified.

#### I. JESUS, ALL ABOUT TRUTH

- John 14:6, Jesus said, “I am the way the truth and the life.”
- John 1:14, “And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory...full of grace and truth.”
- And Scripture contrasts Jesus’ truth with Satan’s lies.
- John 8:44, “...your father the devil...He has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him...for he is a liar and the father of lies.”
- John 8:31-32, “Jesus said to the people who believed in Him, “...<sup>32</sup> And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

#### II. TRUTH TELLING

- Truth telling is core to the foundation of truth.
- Truthfulness is really measured most when it affects us adversely...when there are negative consequences.
- Proverbs 12:22, “The Lord detests lying lips, but He delights in those who tell the truth...”

- Truth hiding kills all potential for real relationships.
- Colossians 3:9-10, “Don’t lie to each other...”

#### III. TRUST AND TRUTHFULNESS

- Honesty is the core to real relationships!
- All hurt is a byproduct of the gap between expectation and reality.
- Psalm 15, “Who may worship in your sanctuary, Lord?...speaking the truth from sincere hearts...”
- “And keep their promises even when it hurts” = keep their word no matter the cost.
- Core to a lack of honesty is not telling ourselves truth.
- Do we allow the Spirit to renew our minds so we can be clear with ourselves about what is true, and what is real?
- Whole people live in reality; even when its painful.
- Building truthfulness in here builds truth with those out there.
- Have we created our own truth? Our own reality?

#### IV. THE FACE OF TRUTH

- What do people who live in truth look like?
- They live with a teachable spirit, want to know reality, are not stubborn, proud, they listen and always learn.
- Ephesians 4:14-15, “...we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ...”
- Key to growth - Be Honest
- When we’re scared and insecure, we avoid honesty.

#### CLOSE

- Do we view truth as a threat or a blessing?