

A FAITH KNOWN FOR INTEGRITY

James: A Faith That Works When Life Doesn't – Part 28

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"A person is worth what his reputation is worth." Prov. 27:21b (NJB)

"A good reputation is more valuable than the most expensive perfume."
Eccl. 7:1a (NLT)

"Choose a good reputation over great riches. Being held in high esteem is far better than having silver or gold."
Prov. 22:1 (NLT)

Paul: "... We're being as careful in our reputation with the public as in our reputation with God."
2 Cor. 8:21 (Mes)

"An elder must be a man whose life cannot be spoken against. He must be faithful to his wife. He must exhibit self-control, live wisely, and have a good reputation. . . . Also, he must have a good reputation with people outside the church who speak well of him so that he can't be disgraced and trapped by Satan."
1 Tim. 3:2, 7 (NLT)

"In the same way, deacons must be people who are respected and have integrity. . . . First, they must be evaluated. Then, if they have a good reputation, they may become deacons."
1 Tim. 3:8, 10 (NLT)

HOW TO BECOME KNOWN FOR INTEGRITY

1. "Above all, my brothers and sisters, don't swear by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Just let your 'Yes' be yes and let your 'No' be no – just say what you mean. Do this so you can't be judged and condemned."
James 5:12

Paul: "Am I like the people of the world who say yes when they really mean no? As surely as God is true, I am not that sort of person! My yes means yes because Jesus Christ, the Son of God, never wavers between yes and no!"
2 Cor. 1:17b-19a (NLT)

Jesus: "I tell you to never swear by heaven, which is God's throne, or by the earth, which is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, his great city, or even by the hair on your head, because you can't turn one hair white or black. Just say a simple 'Yes' if you mean yes or 'No' when you mean no. Your word should be enough. Anything more than that is from the Evil One."
Matthew 5:34-37

2. "Someone who holds back the truth causes trouble . . ."
Pr. 10:10 (TEV)

"Why are you lying? Do you think your lies will benefit God?"
Job 13:7(TEV)

"In the end people appreciate frankness more than flattery."
Pr. 28:23 (LB)

3. "Speak the truth in a spirit of love . . ." Eph. 4:15 (TEV)
"Speak ONLY what is helpful for building others up, according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen." Eph. 4:29
"Thoughtless words can wound as deeply as any sword, but wisely spoken words can heal." Prov. 12:18 (TEV)
"Intelligent people think before they speak . . ." Prov. 16:23 (TEV)
"There is a right time and a right way to do everything . . ." Eccl. 8:6 (TEV)
4. "LET OUR LIVES lovingly express the truth in all things – speaking truly, dealing truly, living truly." Eph. 4:15 (Amp)
"People who can't be trusted are destroyed by their own dishonesty." Prov. 11:3 (TEV)
"David shepherded the people with integrity of heart; and with skillful hands he led them." Ps. 78:72 (NIV)

DAVID'S COMMITMENT TO PERSONAL INTEGRITY

"This is my song (of commitment) to your love and justice O Lord . . . I will lead a life of integrity in my own home. I will refuse to look at anything degrading or demeaning. I will refuse to support anything shameful or corrupt. I will not be dishonest and I will have nothing to do with anything evil. I will silence anyone who spreads gossip and slander about others and I will not tolerate anyone who looks down on others. Instead, I'll keep my eyes on the godly of the land and they will be my heroes. Only those with integrity shall minister to me. No one who cheats or lies will ever have a position in my royal court."
Psalm 101:1-7

DURING COVID-19

- o Today if you prayed and gave your life to Jesus for the first time, text NEWSTART to 99000 or email NEWSTART@saddleback.com.
- o Join an online small group for support during Covid-19. Text SMALLGROUP to 99000 or email SMALLGROUP@saddleback.com.
- o Give your thanks to God for this past week by giving your tithe and offering online at <https://saddleback.com/GIVE>. We're feeding tens of thousands.