

Character Counts: Building a Life That Pleases God

A Plea for Integrity

DANIEL 6:1–23



The Heart of the Matter

Ours is a day of bending the rules and rationalizing the wrong. A growing number of Christians are buying into the mentality that says, “Grace covers *whatever* . . . go ahead, God understands and forgives.” The results are somewhere between embarrassing and scandalous. Issues such as marital commitment, sexual purity, intellectual honesty, and financial accountability are up for discussion rather than character traits to embrace. Even the ranks of ministry have been tainted. The need? A return to *integrity* . . . not sinless perfection but absolute honesty and an absence of duplicity. Impossible? Let’s let Daniel’s life answer that for us.



Discovering the Way

1. Integrity: What It Is and Isn’t

Do you follow through on the promises you make? Having integrity means sticking to your word and avoiding duplicity. Integrity isn’t sinless perfection but a pursuit of inner excellence.

2. Daniel: A Biblical Example (Daniel 6:1–23)

When undeserved affliction fell upon Daniel, he stayed true to his faith, even at the risk of death.



Starting Your Journey

An examination of integrity leads to three enduring principles:

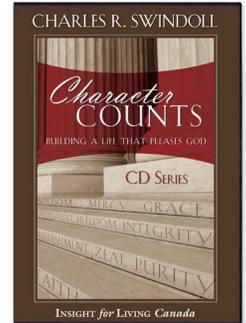
1. True integrity—

2. Real integrity—

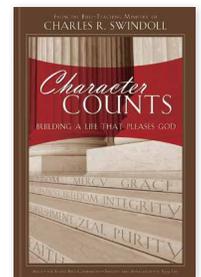
3. Broken integrity—



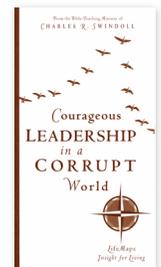
Tools for Digging Deeper



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