



STUDY 3 - Sunday 16th September 2018

Throughout September the whole church family is being consulted about the document 'Transition of Ministry'. Make sure you have your copy! We want to encourage a real sense of involvement and ownership in this process.

Some of the questions the leadership team considered in working on this document are ones that you could ask:

- What would you like to tell a potential pastor about the community WBC serves?
- What do you consider should be included in the future vision / direction of our church family over the next 5 years?
- What qualities in any potential pastor would you look for in order to give leadership and equip us to fulfil such vision and direction?

We want to take September as a month when we consider the 5 core values mentioned in the document. Your small group may not be meeting every week – and it may mean that some weeks you take up two of the values.

Let us journey together into God's future.

CORE VALUE 3 – Integrity

Reading Psalm 15 1-5

INTEGRITY : Exhibiting integrity by being honest, demonstrating high biblical/moral standards and doing what is pleasing to God, whatever the personal cost.

Integrity is a relatively modern word and depending on the version of the bible you are using the word *integrity* can appear a lot or a little. Where it is used little words like pure, upright, honest, whole loyal are all used

Why not get a number of Bibles (that have a concordance and look up integrity in the Bible or go on line and use Biblegateway)

The Bible refers to Noah, Moses, Abraham, David, Jesus and even Stephen as men of integrity, why?

Integrity has three key themes;

Wholeness; not compartmentalised, broken up into segments..... We get the word integrity from the word integer, meaning whole, remember in maths integer means a whole number, it's not a fraction... Decimal... And that means your life is a whole

When you segregate your life, you do not have integrity.

Authenticity; You keep it real, you're not pretending, you are not pretending to be someone who you are not. And if you have integrity you act the same whoever you are with and wherever you are

It also means **unmixed motivation**. It means you do the right thing, but you do it for the right reason it means your sincere, your straight forward. You can pray to talk to God or you can pray to impress others, one has integrity and one doesn't.

Society and possibly ourselves are so concerned with image and what we portray to others that we cover up the real us.

- *In what ways do we cover up?*
- *Is it ever OK to lie to protect another person (the so called white lie?) and does this impact our authenticity and integrity?*
- *How do we segment our lives and if we do is there an area that is being neglected?*

Review Psalm 15 1:5 NIZ and explore the challenges you face and how might you meet these?

You may want to use the checklist from Sunday to talk about the challenges and how we overcome the temptations;

1. keeping your promises, they keep their word (verbal integrity) Proverbs 25:14	4. By faithfully tithing (spiritual integrity) Malachi 3:8 – 10
2. By paying your bills (financial integrity) Psalm 37:21 & Romans 13:6 (NIV) [6]	5. By doing your best at work (vocational integrity) Proverbs 18:9 Ephesians 6:5 – 7
3. By refusing to gossip (relational integrity). Proverbs 11 [13]. Proverbs 10:18 (NIV) [18]	6. By being real with others (authentic integrity) 2 Corinthians 4:2

The messages around integrity are so challenging when have you had a real challenge to speak up on a subject (for your integrity) but it is not popular? How has God Helped or blessed you?

You may want to remind yourself of the blessings

The blessing of personal confidence. Proverbs 10:9, Proverbs 11:3

- Second blessing is you get a lasting legacy. Proverbs 20:7
- Blessing of rewards in eternity Matthew, 25:21

FOR YOUR OWN NOTES