

# A Life of Integrity

*In this lesson we discover what integrity is and how to build a life of faithfulness.*

The world is in desperate need of integrity, faithfulness, and loyalty. Those traits are so rare today that, when they are noticed, they stand out in the daily news cycle as being something surprising. In truth, integrity should be the norm that pervades and informs every area of our life.

## DID YOU KNOW?

John Wesley, the English evangelist and founder of Methodism, was once asked by a woman what he would do if he knew that at midnight the next night, he would die. Wesley thought about it for a minute and gave this surprising answer: "Why, just as I intend to spend it now. I should preach this night at Gloucester, and again at five tomorrow morning; after that I should ride to Tewkesbury, preach in the afternoon, and meet the societies in the evening. I should then repair to friend Martin's house, who expects to entertain me, converse and pray with the family as usual, retire to my room at ten o'clock, commend myself to my heavenly Father, lie down to rest, and wake up in glory."<sup>9</sup> In other words, John Wesley's life was lived on the cutting edge of integrity. That meant he had no great preparations to make in order to stand before God: no confessions, no repentance, no altering of his lifestyle. He lived a life that would commend him to God at any moment.

## Group Questions

1. Describe a time you were challenged to show integrity.

a. Why is living a life of integrity so difficult? List three reasons.

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b. In this lesson, what are some ways integrity is defined?

2. Read Exodus 3:14 and Deuteronomy 32:4. How do these verses describe the faithfulness of God?

a. How does God's faithfulness encourage you?

b. Ask people in your group to share specific ways they have experienced God's faithfulness.

3. List and discuss each step on the road to integrity. Talk about each step and what it fully entails.

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4. Warren Buffett once said, "In looking for people to hire, you look for three qualities: integrity, intelligence, and energy. And if you don't have the first, the other two will kill you." Discuss this quote. Why is integrity so important?

5. Read Hebrews 10:24–25.

a. Have you found being accountable to others is helpful to your spiritual growth? Why or why not?

b. What are some blessings of accountability? What are some reasons we avoid it?

c. Discuss some ways you can "stir up love and good works"—and integrity—in each other's lives.