



## Series: Hard Truths | Big Help

### INTRODUCTION

In almost every area of life, we have seen someone...

... *incredibly talented... caring personality... destined for greatness ... so much potential...*

And then... BOOM! They fell. They had so much potential, but they were **careless**.

It was not because they lacked skill, but because they lacked character and faithfulness.

This week's hard truth is one the older generation knows very well:

**Character and faithfulness are much more valuable than *followers and fame*.**

### 1. GOD'S CALLING – A Privilege and Responsibility

**1 Samuel 16:7** – “...for the LORD seeth **not as man** seeth... the LORD looketh on the heart.”

**1 Corinth 4:2** – “Moreover it is **required in stewards**, that a man be found **faithful**.”

#### Insights:

- ✓ David was not chosen because he was the most impressive; God chose for his heart.
- ✓ Notice that the steward is not praised for being influential, or amazing... but faithful.

#### Key Truth

- ✓ God is not looking for the most gifted servant, but the most willing and dependable one.

### 2. BIBLE WARNINGS – “Don’t waste your calling from God”

<b>Men</b>	<b>Samson – Judges 16:20</b>	Careless with his... _____.
	<b>Saul – 1 Samuel 15:22</b>	Careless with his... _____.
	<b>Solomon – 1 Kings 11:4</b>	Careless with his... _____.
	<b>Demas – 2 Timothy 4:10</b>	Careless with the... _____.
<b>Women</b>	<b>Eve – Genesis 3:1-6</b>	Careless with God's _____.
	<b>Lot's Wife – Genesis 19:26</b>	Careless with her... _____.
	<b>Miriam – Numbers 12:2</b>	Careless with her... _____.
	<b>Sapphira – Acts 5:1-9</b>	Careless with her... _____.

### 3. WHY YOUNG PEOPLE STRUGGLE WITH THIS

Because modern culture says and teaches:

- ✓ “Just do it” ... “Show off your gift” ... “Build your platform” ... “Be seen” ... “Go viral!”

***Small compromises can become big falls...***

*One click. One secret. One relationship. One lie.*

*“Abstain from all appearance of evil.” – 1 Thessalonians 5:22*

**1 Peter 5:6** – “Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God...”

**Truth:**

- ✓ A life platform without character becomes a recipe for disaster and failure.

**Practical Applications:**

- ✓ Do not trade your calling from God for a moment.
- ✓ Sometimes the biggest danger isn't that you are weak – it is thinking you are OK.

## 4. GOOD EXAMPLES IN THE BIBLE

<b>Men</b>	<b>Joseph – Genesis 39:9</b>	<i>Faithful in ...</i> _____.
	<b>Nehemiah – Nehemiah 6:3</b>	<i>Focused in God's...</i> _____.
	<b>Daniel – Daniel 1:8</b>	<i>Purposed in ...</i> _____.
	<b>Paul – 1 Corinth 9:27</b>	<i>Disciplined in...</i> _____.
<b>Women</b>	<b>Ruth – Ruth 1:16</b>	<i>Loyal in ...</i> _____.
	<b>Hannah – 1 Samuel 1:15</b>	<i>Prayerful in ...</i> _____.
	<b>Abigail – 1 Samuel 25:33</b>	<i>Wise in ...</i> _____.
	<b>Mary – Luke 1:38</b>	<i>Humble in...</i> _____.

## 5. THE OLDER GENERATION

**Listen to their Testimonies:**

- ✓ “I have seen very gifted people fall.”
- ✓ “I wish I had not been careless in life early on.”
- ✓ “The people who lasted were not always the smartest – they were the steadiest.”
- ✓ **YOUR TESTIMONY:**  
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**Ecclesiastes 9:11**

*... the race is not to the swift,  
nor the battle to the strong...*

## 6. PRACTICAL WISDOM FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

- ✓ Pursue depth and character before visibility. **2 Tim 2:15** – Care more about God's approval
- ✓ Build private integrity before public influence. **Luke 16:10** – Little choices reflect big character
- ✓ Do not confuse giftedness with godliness. **2 Tim 3:5** – Looking good is not same as doing right
- ✓ Choose faithfulness over fast success. **Galatians 6:9** – Slow obedience outlasts quick popularity
- ✓ Surround yourself with people who are true. **Proverbs 27:6** – Flattery ruins; accountability cares

**To the younger generation:**

*Your gift may get your noticed... but your character will determine if you last.*

**To the older generation:**

*Your steady faithfulness is more valuable over time than shining for a season.*