

The Blessings and Courage of Wisdom

Proverbs 28 pt 5

"The one who lives with integrity will be helped, but one who distorts right and wrong will suddenly fall.." -Proverbs 28:18

As you reflect on the importance of a healthy lifestyle, what are some ways a believer can live with integrity?

*Know your v_____ and actually use them *Follow through on c_____

*Tell the t_____ even when it's uncomfortable *Be consistent across r_____

*Treat people the s_____ whether or not anyone is watching

*Take r_____ without deflecting *Set b_____ that reflect your principles

*Surround yourself with people who value I_____

"If you have integrity, nothing else matters. If you don't have integrity nothing else matters."

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17 Someone burdened by blood guilt will be a fugitive until death. Let no one help him.

What does it mean for someone to be burdened by blood guilt?

The are g_____ of m_____! Genesis 1:27; Exodus 20:13

The Bible makes it clear that God's attitude towards this sin was established long before the Laws of Moses. (Genesis 4:10-12) King Solomon highlights reality of those who are guilty of this sin.

What was the consequence of those who committed murder and why? Genesis 9:6

L____ for a L____; Because we are m_____ in the image of G____. Exodus 21:12

Let no one help? Are there any exceptions? Numbers 35:11

Although we live in a time where people can hire lawyers, what are some ways people help murderers?

*Failing to r_____ suspects/suspicious behavior *Providing emotional c_____

*Fear or coercion *Being m_____ *Obstruction

Can someone be forgiven for the sin of murder? ____; 2 Samuel 12:13; Acts 2:38

18 The one who lives with integrity will be helped, but one who distorts right and wrong will suddenly fall.

Notice the contrast: Living with I _____ Vs Distorting right and w_____.

Integrity: without blemish, complete, full, sincerely, whole, truth; physically and morally for the ways and works of God.

Does living with integrity mean you will get everything right all the time? _____

*N_____; Genesis 6:9 *A_____; Genesis 17:1 *J____; Job 1:1

*D_____; 2 Samuel 22:24

How can someone possess integrity?

*Practicing r_____; Psalm 15:2 *By m_____ on it; Psalm 101:2

*By l_____ others in the right path; 2 Timothy 2:2

What does King Solomon mean by they will be helped?

They'll be safe, defended, rescued, preserved, victorious, saved. Psalm 18:17

How does someone distort right and wrong?

Perverse: make crooked, twist

What are some ways people twist right and wrong?

*Rationalization *Moral licensing *Dehumanization

*Shifting b_____ *Minimizing *Appealing to higher causes

Isaiah 5:20; Proverbs 17:15; Amos 5:7; Malachi 2:17

19 The one who works his land will have plenty of food, but whoever chases fantasies will have his fill of poverty.

Notice the contrast: W_____ Vs Chasing f_____; P_____ Vs P_____

Like reaping and sowing; so working and reward go hand in hand. King Solomon highlights the reward of working hard and reality of chasing fantasies.

Works his land: Tilling, breaking up and loosening the top layer of ground; aerating the soil to create a suitable seedbed for root growth and water infiltration.

What are some ways we “work our land” today?

*Preparing our m_____ *Building r_____

*Developing habits & routine *Investing in the next g_____

*Caring for our e_____ ***1 Thess. 4:11-12***

“A dream does not become reality through magic; it takes sweat, determination, and hard work.”

How do people chase fantasies today?

*Get r quick schemes

What are some dangers of chasing fantasies?

*Identity c_____

Poverty: Lacking, living in lack; 1 Timothy 6:9-11

20 A faithful person will have many blessings, but one in a hurry to get rich will not go unpunished.

What constraints do you see?

F_____ person Vs F_____ chaser; Many b_____ Vs Many b_____

Faithful: someone consistent, loyal, dependable, and secure

Blessings: gift, peace, benefit, generous, prosperity

What are some ways God blesses faithful people?

*Inner p_____ *Strong relationships *Moral d_____

Matthew 25:21; Luke 16:10-12

In contrast to the faithful, King Solomon says, the fantasy chaser will not go unpunished. This is a warning of God's justice.

How would you encourage someone who is blinded by chasing fantasies?

*Strengthen their connection to the p_____

Matthew 6:33-34; Isaiah 43:18-19

What is one thing you have learned that you are willing to share with someone else?

“Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is a gift of God, which is why we call it the present.”