

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 l_____

"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?

- *Living through social media
- *Escaping into e_____
- *Romanticizing the future
- *Consumer f_____
- *Get r_____ quick schemes

What are some dangers of chasing fantasies?

- *Losing touch with reality
- *Avoiding necessary a_____
- *Setting impossible e_____
- *Losing opportunities
- *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 contrasts 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_____
- *Gratitude for everyday life
- *Sense of p_____

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 j_____.

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.”