



October 4, 2009

“Surviving Life With Integrity” (8)

I Peter 2:11-18

Text: 1 Peter 2:11-18 (English Standard Version)

11 Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. 12 Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. 13 Be subject for the Lord’s sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, 14 or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. 15 For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. 16 Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. 17 Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor. 18 Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust.

Living with Integrity

“Integrity is doing the right thing, especially when no one is watching.”

1. What does it mean to live life with integrity? What does integrity look like at work, at home, driving on the freeway, using money, watching TV or surfing the internet?
2. Name some people who you would describe as people of integrity.
3. People are watching your every move to see what kind of person you are... What do they watch?

4. What do you do to avoid temptation?
5. How can we encourage one another to live lives of integrity?

Into the Bible

1. Peter calls us “sojourners”, why do you think Peter refers to us in this manner? (2:11)
2. Another way to live with integrity is to show respect for authority. Why should we respect those in authority over us? (2:12)
3. How do you respect individuals whose conduct may not deserve your respect? (2:13-15)
4. If followers of Jesus are free from the “wages of sin” (Romans 3:23) does it really matter how we live our lives? (2:16-18)

Application Questions

1. What is keeping you from living a life of integrity?
2. How do you keep from loving this world too much?
3. Do you have someone in your life (other than your spouse) who holds you accountable in your walk with God? If not, who could you ask to help keep you accountable?
4. As you go into your week remember that your real citizenship is in heaven because...”I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.” (Galatians 2:20 NIV)