

## Who You Are When No One Is Watching

This sermon title is what I learned the word integrity really means!

It's what sets apart those who "talk the talk" & those who "walk the walk"!

"Integrity takes a lifetime to establish and a moment to throw away!" - Mom

3 parts to the sermon today – a Proverb, an example, & an application

The goal is the pursuit of wisdom – which is the application of knowledge!

- **Proverbs 20:17 – "Bread gained by deceit is sweet to man, but afterward his mouth will be filled with gravel."**

A good example – Getting a free soda from the pop machine

Wisdom says, "If you didn't earn it, or if it wasn't intentionally given to you, then it is not yours to take!"

- **Proverbs 11:27 – "He who seeks good finds goodwill, but evil comes to him who searches for it."**

A good example – Free packs of sports cards from the card shop

Wisdom says, "Always do the right thing regardless of the outcome!"

- **Proverbs 10:9 – "Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who makes his ways crooked will be found out."**

A good example – How I made the baseball team in high school

Wisdom says, "There are no short cuts to true success!"

- **Proverbs 12:22 – "The Lord detests lying lips, but he delights in men who are truthful."**

A Bad Example – Bringing in food at the Aut-O-Rama!

Wisdom says, "How much is your integrity worth? More than the price of popcorn!"

**Proverbs 20:7 – "The righteous man walks in his integrity; his children are blessed after him."** What example are we setting for our children?

- **Proverbs 28:13 – "He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy."**

Both a bad and a good example – My Alive Festival experience

Wisdom says, "**If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**" – 1 John 1:9

- **Proverbs 11:3 – "The integrity of the upright guides them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity."**

A bad example – A debt left unpaid

Wisdom says, "Doing the right thing is the only way to live without regrets!"

**Proverbs 21:3 – "To do what is right and just (to be people of integrity) is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice."**

Going to church is not the same as being the Church - the latter is far better.

What do people learn about Christ & Christianity by observing how we live?

And even if others don't see it, integrity is who we are when no one is watching! **BUT**, someone is always watching!

**Proverbs 15:3 – "The eyes of the Lord are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good."**

You've heard a few of my bad examples of living with integrity, & maybe a few of your own bad examples have come to mind, what should you do?

**Proverbs 16:6 – "Through love and faithfulness sin is atoned for; through the fear of the Lord a man avoids evil."**

Ask God to forgive you, and He will. **Then seek to live a transformed life!**

**Proverbs 24:16 – "For though a righteous man falls seven times, he rises again, but the wicked are brought down to calamity."**

We are called to live a life of integrity! Are we known as such people?

**Proverbs 22:1 – "A good name is more desirable than great riches..."**

## 9-23-18 Who You Are When No One Is Watching

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