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Week 3: Living with Integrity in a Corrupt World

Daily Devotional

As you read these daily scriptures, ask yourself these three questions:

1. What is God saying to me?
2. What do I want to say to God in response?
3. How will I live out this truth?

**Day 1: Ephesians 5:15-17 (KJV)**See then that you walk circumspectly [careful to consider all circumstances and possible consequences], not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil.  Therefore, do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

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**Day 2: Daniel 6:3-4**Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom. 4At this, the administrators and the satraps tried to find grounds for charges against Daniel in his conduct of government affairs, but they were unable to do so. They could find no corruption in him, because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor negligent.

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**Day 3: Matthew 10:16**“I am sending you out like sheep among wolves.  Therefore, be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.”

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**Day 4: Matthew 5:16**In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good needs and glorify your Father in Heaven.

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**Day 5: 1 Corinthians 15:58**Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

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Discussion Questions:

**1.** Pastor Bob started the teaching with the analogy of how consistently walking improves your overall physical health. What spiritual habit (prayer, study of scripture, fasting, sabbath, worship, etc) has had the greatest effect on your life as you’ve practiced it consistently?

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**2.**  As a group, choose one spiritual habit to focus on this week. What concessions will you personally need to make in your schedule to add this to your routine?

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**3.** Read Daniel 6:1-5. When have you felt like the culture of your work, peer group or family was at odds with your faith?

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**4.** How did you navigate that spiritual opposition? Is there anything you would like to have done differently?

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**5.** Read Daniel 6:10-12 & Matthew 10:16. Daniel was undeterred from his faith practices, and instead did what he had always done. Would you describe his response to the decree as “shrewd as a snake” or “harmless as a done”?

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6. Dr Charles Stanley often said, “Obey God and leave all the consequences to Him. “How does a consistent, daily walk with God build that kind of trust?

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7. Read Daniel 6:19-23. Pastor Bob taught that a miracle is possible but not always probable. How do miracles make an impact on a watching world? How can our witness and testimony have the same impact when we don’t receive the miracle?

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8. Our discussion has centered a lot around spiritual opposition rather than on persecution. Discuss the difference between the two.

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9. End your group praying for persecuted Christians who face death, physical harm, and burned church buildings around the world.

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