

By Dr. David H. McKinley

#### REMAINING TRUE WHEN TRIED

"No man can for any considerable time wear one face to himself and another to the multitude without finally getting bewildered as to which is the true one." —Nathaniel Hawthorne

### What Does Integrity Mean?

"1: an unimpaired condition: SOUNDNESS 2: firm adherence to a code of esp. moral or artistic values: INCORRUPTIBILITY 3: the quality or state of being complete or undivided: COMPLETENESS, WHOLENESS."

—Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary

"People with integrity have firm footing, but those who follow crooked paths will slip and fall."

Proverbs 20:3 (NLT)

So many failures in life are not the external collapses, but internal collapses with external consequences.

# Why Does Integrity Matter?

# ▶ Integrity brings continuity in your life.

"The integrity of the honest keeps them on track; the deviousness of crooks brings them to ruin." Proverbs 11:3

"Integrity is the glue that holds our way of life together. We must constantly strive to keep our integrity intact." —Billy Graham

#### ▶ Integrity builds trust in your relationships.

Truth and trust are vital in all human relationships. Truth and trust are like the pedals on a bike. The are both needed for relationships to run smoothly.

#### ▶ Integrity increases your influence.

"If everything rises and falls on leadership, the secret to rising and not falling is integrity."

—John Maxwell

"The righteous man walks in integrity; his children are blessed after him." Proverbs 20:7

### ▶ Integrity reduces the stress in your life.

Image is what people think you are. Integrity is what you really are.

#### **How is Integrity Measured?**

- ▶ Consistency. Are you the same person no matter who you are with?
- ▶ Choices. Do you make decisions best for others when another choice would benefit you?
- ▶ Credit. Are you quick to recognize others and to recognize those whose efforts contribute to your success?

"He who walks with integrity walks securely..."

Proverbs 20:3 (NJKV)

"When I lay down the reins of this administration, I want to have one friend left. And that friend is inside myself." —Abraham Lincoln

