

Apply The Word

www.crosswaypa.org



Message Info

Title:

Integrity

Speaker:

Doug Plank

Date:

March 22nd, 2026

Scriptures:

Proverbs 20:1–30

Theme: Strive for integrity as blessing and reward will surely come.

Introduction: Integrity is wholeness, and it starts with a heart that fears God. It brings peace and honors the Lord, but the absence of integrity is destructive. It is the Lord's great purpose in the gospel to save and conform sinners into the image of God the Son, which means every believer grows in integrity over the course of their life as they come to reflect the perfect integrity of Jesus Christ.

There are three prominent features of integrity in Proverbs 20:

1. Integrity of heart

- As with all of life, integrity comes from a renewed heart.
- "The purpose in a man's heart is like deep water" (v. 5). All of us have deep water purposes in our hearts from which every aspect of our life is sourced.
- The depths of our hearts must be examined by a "man of understanding"; most importantly, we need the Lord's scrutiny.
- Growth in integrity comes through two channels: instruction and discipline.

2. Integrity in habit

- The way to measure a man's integrity is by his walk, the fruit of what he does.
- Proverbs 20 gives a few examples of integrity of habit:
 - Verse 1 warns about the dangers of an unfettered appetite for alcohol.
 - Verses 17 and 21 teach to the necessity of integrous business dealings.

3. Integrity in relationships

- The greatest test of our integrity is the people we live with and near, the people we see and interact with daily.
- People have a way of testing what we are really about and whether we are wholesome before God.
- Chapter 20 speaks to a few relationships that require integrity: rulers and subjects (vv. 2, 8, 26), parents and children (vv. 11, 20, 29), and friendship (v. 19).

Questions:

1. How are you responding to God's instruction and/or discipline in your life?
2. How do your habits reveal integrity? What habits do you have that show a lack of integrity?
3. How is God using your relationships to grow you in godly integrity?