

Voice of Triumph



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"The just man walketh in his integrity: [through succession] his children are blessed after him" Proverbs 20:7

FILTERING INTEGRITY

To have the root of INTEGRITY position yourself as a *filter*. What should be kept out you keep out. What should be left in, won't be able to get out. If maintaining integrity is your goal, it must be predetermined before any event. I once heard a couple of people talking about another who got caught embezzling money. They said they would not have done it for so little amount of money. I replied, "you can't have a price at all if you are going to keep your integrity." Proverbs 14:12 declares, "There is a way which seems right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.." You must escape three areas from entrapment. **Avoid substitutions.** In some recipes, directions suggest the substitution of one item for another. Sometimes the replacement is not the same value, but lower. You can put something of lesser value in its place, but you can't replace what's authentic with a counterfeit. It may look or even taste authentic. Make no mistake; the replacement makes it a genuine imitation. Integrity is a value you can't afford to surrender as a sacrifice. **Avoid compromise.** One day a hunter came across a bear in the woods. The bear said to the hunter, "I want a full stomach." The hunter responded. "I want a fur coat." "Let's compromise," suggested the bear – and promptly ate the man. As a result, they both got what they wanted. The bear went away with a full stomach and the man went away wrapped in fur. The hunter learned the lesson of compromise: when there is a choice between the lesser of two evils, choose neither. Sometimes getting what you want is still not good enough. It may be your last decision. **Avoid traps,** whether hidden or baited. With every temptation, there is also a way to embrace or escape it. Ask where is the breakthrough point is that leads to the abundant life? I believe you can make great decisions even under pressure. Enticement never allows you to think to the end. It only envisions pleasure, never pain. Attraction always sees empowerment without entrapment. It suspends any rules by using the exception to the rules which is usually an exemption from danger. Beyond entanglement, there is enslavement, which means you no longer have freedom. You have the power to deceive yourself. You can believe the lie you tell yourself. In William Shakespeare's words, "To thine own self be true." In other words, quit lying to yourself. There are absolutes. They may appear to have a proponent of equalization. In reality, they are opposite, but never equal. Jeremiah 17:9 reveals, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" You can unknowingly trick yourself as well as others. That's why God looks on the heart to check motives, instead of our outer appearance. We all require the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth, so that we won't live deceived to any degree. Allow the Word of God to cleanse you so you will bypass liability. With the presence of truth, you will discover liberty from lies, deception, and error. With a non-negotiable heart, you won't lean on your own understanding but totally trust in the Lord.

INCLUDING SENSITIVITY

To have the fruit of SENSITIVITY position yourself as an *includer*. If the USA is to become one nation indivisible, we must first believe every person is indispensable. You will explore using your deliverables to go beyond any division. If someone is noticeably different from you could simply mean s/he is equipped to handle an area you are not prepared to cover. People are interdependent: everybody needs somebody, sometimes. Sensitivity not only desires, but also makes a place for all others in its world. Let's explore three golden opportunities. **1-The Golden Rule.** "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you," Matthew 7:12. Here you are intentionally planting good seeds the way you desire them to return as a good harvest to you. **2-Golden Connections.** "The greater the territory you make for someone else, the greater the options you will have for yourself." Your gentleness towards others paves a way for their greatness. When you usher others into their breakthrough, they will take you with them when you are in their heart. Your favor reduced the amount of labor it would have taken for their breakthrough. **3-Golden Trophy.** "Learn to do yourself right first, so what you do for others will be right." How well you treat yourself is a clear indicator of how well you will treat others. Don't underestimate your own misuse or abuse. It will eventually show up when you are serving others. How sensitive are you to your own needs? To your conscience, regular exercise, good nutrition, rest, ample sleep, stress reduction, growth, inner healing, fellowship, self-image, continuous learning, etc. Matthew 19:99 "Thou shalt love your neighbor as yourself." What you do for self should be the set standard you measure when rendering service to others. You can't honestly despise or neglect self and expect to be at your best.

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Thought for Transformation

The story of Jesus with the woman at the well reveals notable differences, but he kept on moving toward her with truth. He helped her take off layers to experience transparency. It didn't matter that she was a woman, and he a man. That she worshipped on Jacob's mountain, and he in Jerusalem. That she needed deliverance from herself, and he was the deliverer. That she tried to create a hostile environment, and he was the personification of agape love. That she was a Samaritan, and he was born Jew, but was the creator of all humanity. The distinction was Jesus had experienced transformation and he wanted to introduce her to the One who could change her live completely. It made all the difference that she had a bucket to draw consumable water and Jesus was ready to dispense rivers of water that never run dry.

Breathe Again

Lyrics from Breathe Again read: "You breathed for me, passed death now I live." As you know, resurrection is required there is no more breath. Just before the party can breathe on his/her own again, there is a point where the rescuer breathes for them. Remember, you can't breathe without Him.

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