

# Lesson 7: Men of Integrity... Women of virtue

**MEMORY VERSE FOR MEN:** “Many a man proclaims his own loyalty, but who can find a trustworthy man?” (Prov. 20:6).

**MEMORY VERSE FOR WOMEN:** “Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing, but a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be praised.” (Prov. 31:30)

## Men of Integrity

### ➤ Character DOES matter!

- **10:9** – He who walks with integrity walks \_\_\_\_\_, but he who perverts his ways will become known.
- **11:3** – The integrity of the upright will \_\_\_\_\_ them, but the perversity of the unfaithful will destroy them.
- **20:7** – The righteous man walks in his integrity; his children are \_\_\_\_\_ after him.
- **28:6** – \_\_\_\_\_ is the poor who walks in his integrity than one perverse in his ways, though he be rich.

## WORD STUDY

⇒ Define “integrity” using both a Bible dictionary and also a Webster’s.

### ➤ Good Leadership (at any level) requires integrity.

- **Psalm 78:72** – How did integrity lead David as he was Israel’s shepherd? (Read Psalm 26)

### ➤ Integrity is tied to our reputation

- With God (**1 Kings 9:4; Job 2:3; John 1:47**)
- With Man

**“A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, loving favor rather than silver and gold” (Prov. 22:1)**

- **3:4** “And so find \_\_\_\_\_ and high \_\_\_\_\_ the sight of God and man.”
- **20:11** – Even a child is \_\_\_\_\_ by his deeds, whether what he does is pure and right.
- Although some, like Job’s wife (**Job 2:9**), do not value the importance of integrity, most in our world do value a man with integrity and character, *even if they do not agree with him*.
- Look at some examples of men whose integrity guided them and brought them favor in the sight of man.
  - Joseph (Genesis 39:2-4,21)
  - Samuel (1 Samuel 2:26)
  - Jesus (Luke 2:52)
  - Early Christians (Acts 2:47; Romans 14:18; Titus 2:7,8)

## Practical Wisdom for Living

## Women of Virtue

- **Read 31:10-31 – Study the qualities of a virtuous woman.**
- **She has inner beauty.**
  - **31:30** – Charm and outer beauty are what?
  - **11:22** – As a ring of gold in a \_\_\_\_\_, so is a lovely woman who lacks discretion.
  - **1 Peter 3:4** – What is precious in the sight of God?
    - Some say, “Beauty is only skin deep.” Is this true?
  - Why do women place such a high value on physical attractiveness? (multiple answers)
- **She has great power!**
  - Power to set the tone in the home (**14:1; 21:9,19; 27:15-16; 31:26**).
  - Power to influence her children (**1:8; 31:1,28**).
  - Power to make or break her husband (**12:4; 18:22; 19:14; 31:11,12**).
    - She can influence him without a word (**1 Peter 3:1-2**).
    - How much good does nagging and contention do to improve your husband’s behavior?
- **She provides for her household.**
  - What provisions does she make for her home (**31:15,16,21,27**)?
  - She is involved in financial matters and decisions
    - What is she doing as her husband is working at the gates (**31:16,18,24**)?
- What other qualities of the virtuous woman can you find in ch. 31?

*Men of integrity and women of virtue are always hard to find (Psalm 12:1; Eccl. 7:27-29; Prov. 20:6; 31:10), and that is why Christians shine so brightly as lights in this world of darkness (Phil. 2:15).*

## Hidden Treasures

**“...search for her as for hidden treasures.”**

**An extra thought question:** How has society corrupted the roles of men and women? In what ways has this affected the church? Can you find Bible passages that deal with the same problems we face today?