

3.14.2020

INTEGRITY

Do What You Say, Say What You Do

It is said that the person you compete with the most is the man in the mirror. It is important to not disappoint that man. It is also key to recognize that if you had to choose just one virtue to uphold in your life – it should be Integrity. It will always be your most valuable asset. It is worth more than money or power or fame. You have complete control of this asset and no one else can take it away from you. It is yours and yours alone.



Integrity is the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles; moral uprightness. It is highly sought after and employees who have this quality are paid more than their counterparts who do not demonstrate it. It is one of the essential keys to the Kingdom of Heaven.

Truth be told, the quality of "Integrity" is not one that comes automatically. You are not born with it and it cannot be achieved by talking to people who have integrity. You cannot catch it like a virus or a cold. Integrity results from self-discipline, hard found character, solidified beliefs, good moral foundation, and the relentless pursuit of honesty.

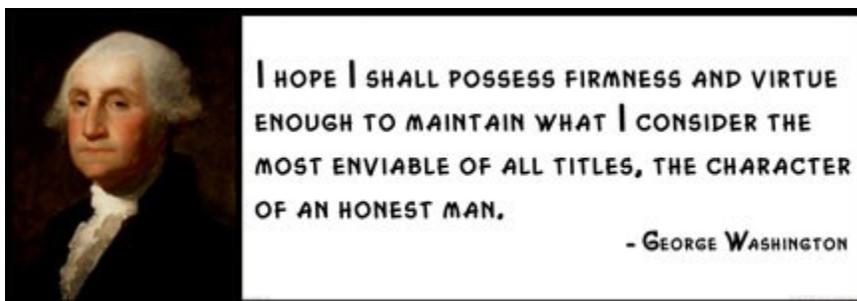
"Commitment and Integrity go hand in hand. Do what you say."

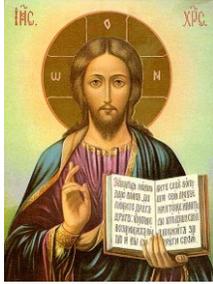
St. Hilary Men's Group

Integrity, honesty and trustworthiness go hand in hand. These demonstrated qualities in a person build Good Character. Integrity, the quality of possessing and steadfastly adhering to high moral principles, is hollow without the quality of being Honest. That is consistently demonstrating attributes or facts of being truthful, authentic, open, sincere, and candid. This in turn leads to be Trustworthy.

God calls us to a life of High Integrity and Good Character. How does this square up with the man you see in the mirror?

What happens to our lives when we make a shift in our attitude and admit that Jesus is our Savior and invite Him into our heart of hearts? Let us listen attentively to the wisdom found in Holy Scripture, our Catechism and in Modern Comment.





Matthew 7:1-5, 7-8, 12 The Golden Rule

“Stop judging,* that you may not be judged. For as you judge, so will you be judged, and the measure with which you measure will be measured out to you.

Why do you notice the splinter in your brother’s eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me remove that splinter from your eye,’ while the wooden beam is in your eye? You hypocrite, remove the wooden beam from your eye first; then you will see clearly to remove the splinter from your brother’s eye.

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. Do to others whatever you would have them do to you.”

Proverbs 28:5-6 The Lord Knows Integrity

The evil understand nothing of justice, but those who seek the LORD understand everything. Better to be poor and walk in integrity than rich and crooked in one’s ways.

Psalms 41:13 Integrity Brings You to the Lord

In my integrity may you support me and let me stand in your presence forever.

The Word of the Lord



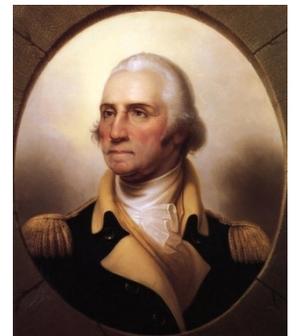
Catechism

CCC 2273 - The Right to Life of Every Human is Core to Civil Society

The inalienable rights of the person must be recognized and respected by civil society and the political authority. These human rights depend neither on single individuals nor on parents; nor do they represent a concession made by society and the state; they belong to human nature and are inherent in the person by virtue of the creative act from which the person took his origin. Among such fundamental rights one should mention in this regard every human being's right to life and physical integrity from the moment of conception until death.

Modern Comment Lead With Integrity

The person whom you compete with the most is the person you see when you look into the mirror. Todd Duncan¹ observed, “Integrity is not automatic. It results from self-discipline, hard-found character, solidified beliefs, and the relentless pursuit of honesty.”



What a great quote about the human quality that is most necessary to achieve long-term business success.

¹ Todd Duncan is an author, trainer, communicator, personal coach and founder of High Trust; an institute based upon promoting Integrity and Leadership.

For where two or three are gathered in My name, there am I in the midst of them. Matthew 18:20

I would add success at any endeavor: business, personal, educational, domestic, intimate, and congregational or any undertaking.

James Cash Penney was one of the nation's great retailing pioneers. Born the son of a minister in 1875, he went into the dry goods business as a salesman. He quickly became a manager and part owner of his own store. Penney was committed to conducting business with Integrity. He insisted on selling only quality merchandise, keeping price mark-ups to a minimum, and operating by the Golden Rule. By 1912, Penney owned a chain of 34 Golden Rule stores. In 1919, he changed the name to J. C. Penney. By 1928, the chain had grown to more than 1,000 stores. In describing the secret to his success, Penney said: "There are no secrets. In retailing, the formula is a basic liking for human beings, plus Integrity and hard work."

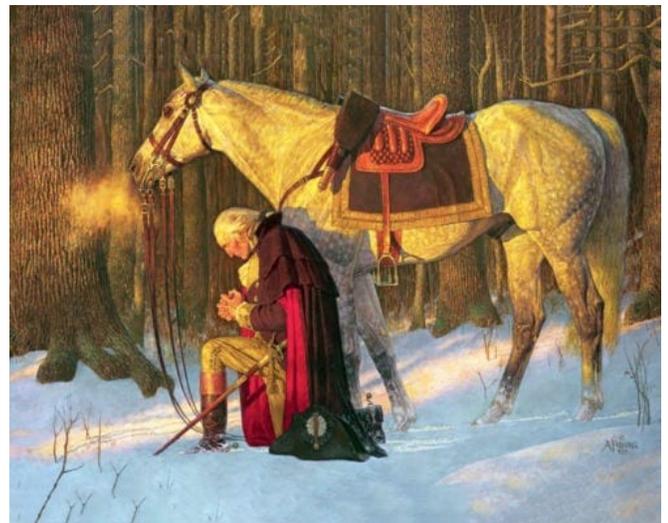
Colin Powell is regarded as a man of great integrity. In a recent interview, he pointed on his desk to one of his most prized possessions, a photo of Ronald Reagan and Powell. The photo was inscribed as follows: "Colin, when you tell me something I know it is so."

As a leader, you could receive no greater compliment.

George Washington's Farewell Address

An excellent example of a man with integrity.

One of the most referenced parts of Washington's farewell letter is his strong endorsement of the importance of religion and morality in promoting private and public happiness and in promoting the prosperity of the nation. He argues that religious principles promote the protection of property, reputation, and life that are the foundations of justice. He cautions against the belief that the nation's morality can be maintained without religion:



"Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion, and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism, who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens. The mere politician, equally with the pious man, ought to respect and to cherish them. A volume could not trace all their connections with private and public felicity. Let it simply be asked: Where is the security for property, for reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligation deserts the oaths which are the instruments of investigation in courts of justice? And let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion.

Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle."

Washington denotes that religious principles are the foundation of public morality and the basis for our American government.

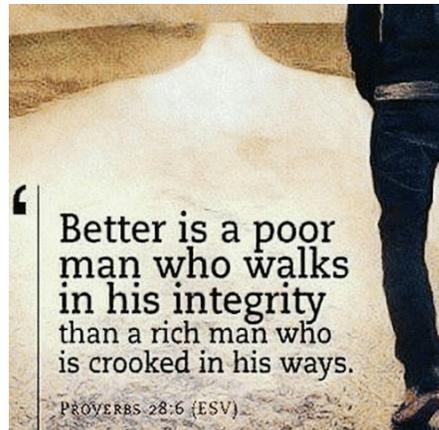
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Questions for Discussion:

1. How do you define Integrity? Is Integrity important in Society today? Please explain.

2. Has there ever been a person in your life who has demonstrated high levels of Integrity? How did this impact you? Do people with integrity ever disappoint and have temporary failings? Please explain.

3. Integrity, honesty and trustworthiness go hand in hand. They build Good Character. Give an example of a man in your life that had Good Character.



Men's Group Calendar
A Man who never quits is Never Defeated.



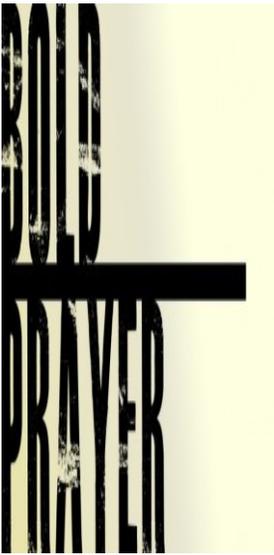
3/20/2020	Stations of the Cross	Church
3/21/2020	CMFNEO CONFERENCE	Holiday Inn Rockside
3/27/2020	Leadership Meeting	8:30 AM Sacred Heart Library
4/4/2020	Men's Group*^{EARLY}	7 AM Mass
4/18/2020	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
5/9/2020	Men's Group	7 AM Mass



ACTION PLAN

This month I will do my best to listen for God's will in my life by:

- Creating a daily prayer practice.
- Seeking God in prayer and being quiet in His presence.
- Paying more attention to God's Blessings in my life.
- Asking Jesus for help in becoming a better servant.
- Asking God to create a man of Full Integrity in you.



Lord, God and Savior, by your love you draw me to yourself. Forgive me – the sinner that I am, and fill me with every good thing, not withholding even the gift of your most beloved son. Come dwell in my heart.

Send forth your Holy Spirit to guide me in your path. Make me worthy of your love, and teach me how to forgive as you forgave.

Thank you for your tender mercies. I ask you to bless my family, friends and those who I meet in my comings and goings.

Where there is joy, give them continued joy. Where there is pain or sorrow, give them your peace and mercy. Where there is self-doubt, release in them a renewed confidence. Fill their every need with your Holy Grace.

You are indeed my Lord, God and Savior. Amen

Broken
things can become
blessed things
if you let God
do the mending.



Living with Integrity and living an integrated life go hand in hand. When we feel distressed, when we feel unhappy, and when we feel dissatisfied, these are fairly good indications that we've stepped away from the integrated life. The saints can help you live an integrated life! See below 3 ½ minute video regarding Thomas Moore.

<http://go.dynamiccatholic.com/GzH0ON10ER0IH0fF0020aSI>

