

Importance of Integrity
Prophetic Living – Part 4
Life Church St. Louis – March 22, 2020
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker
Message Videos – www.lcstl.org/messages

Philippians 2:14-16a (ESV) Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life ...

1. Live with integrity

1 Samuel 12:1-2 (ESV) And Samuel said to all Israel, “Behold, I have obeyed your voice in all that you have said to me and have made a king over you. And now, behold, the king walks before you, and I am old and gray; and behold, my sons are with you. I have walked before you from my youth until this day.

1A. Treat others fairly

1 Samuel 12:3a (ESV) Here I am; testify against me before the LORD and before his anointed. Whose ox have I taken? Or whose donkey have I taken? Or whom have I defrauded?

1B. Treat others kindly

1 Samuel 12:3b-4 (ESV) Whom have I oppressed? Or from whose hand have I taken a bribe to blind my eyes with it? Testify against me and I will restore it to you.” They said, “You have not defrauded us or oppressed us or taken anything from any man’s hand.”

2. Call others to God

1 Samuel 12:7 (ESV) Now therefore stand still that I may plead with you before the LORD concerning all the righteous deeds of the LORD that he performed for you and for your fathers.

2A. Speak words of correction

1 Samuel 12:8-9 (ESV) When Jacob went into Egypt, and the Egyptians oppressed them, then your fathers cried out to the LORD and the LORD sent Moses and Aaron, who brought your fathers out of Egypt and made them dwell in this place. But they forgot the LORD their God. And he sold them into the hand of ... the Philistines ... And they fought against them.

2B. Speak words of instruction

1 Samuel 12:14-15 (ESV) If you will fear the LORD and serve him and obey his voice and not rebel against the commandment of the LORD, and if both you and the king who reigns over you will follow the LORD your God, it will be well. But if you will not obey the voice of the LORD, but rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then the hand of the LORD will be against you and your king.

3. Trust in God’s faithfulness

1 Samuel 12:16 (ESV) Now therefore stand still and see this great thing that the LORD will do before your eyes.

3A. God has great power

1 Samuel 12:17-18 (ESV) Is it not wheat harvest today? I will call upon the LORD, that he may send thunder and rain. And you shall know and see that your wickedness is great, which you have done in the sight of the LORD, in asking for yourselves a king.” So Samuel called upon the LORD, and the LORD sent thunder and rain that day, and all the people greatly feared the LORD and Samuel.

3B. Serve God wholeheartedly

1 Samuel 12:20-21 (ESV) And Samuel said to the people, “Do not be afraid; you have done all this evil. Yet do not turn aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart. And do not turn aside after empty things that cannot profit or deliver, for they are empty.

3C. God has great love

1 Samuel 12:22 (ESV) For the LORD will not forsake his people, for his great name’s sake, because it has pleased the LORD to make you a people for himself.

3D. Pray for those in need

1 Samuel 12:23 (ESV) Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD by ceasing to pray for you, and I will instruct you in the good and the right way.

Action Plan for This Week

Have a daily time of Bible reading & prayer (Read 1 Samuel 12).
 Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun

Invite a friend to watch the service online next week.

How will I obey God’s Word this week? _____

Importance of Integrity Study Guide

Prophetic Living – Part 4

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Intro. How has your perception of the coronavirus crisis changed in the last week?

Intro. In what ways can Philippians 2:14-16 be applied to our behavior in the midst of this crisis?

Intro. Why is it important for believers and the church to react differently to this crisis than the world? In what ways?

Intro. What is the responsibility of believers and the church to follow government guidelines (Romans 13:1-4)?

1A. Why is it important to live with integrity (1 Samuel 12:1-2)?

1B. How should we treat others fairly as believers (1 Samuel 12:3a)?

1C. How can we treat others kindly at this time (1 Samuel 12:3b-4)?

1D. How can believers reach out and show God's love in this crisis?

2A. Why was it important for Samuel to call people back to God (1 Samuel 12:7)?

2B. Describe the cycle of behavior in Israel that needed correction (1 Samuel 12:8-9)?

2C. What was Samuel calling on Israel to do (1 Samuel 12:14-15)?

2D. Do you think that coronavirus is a judgement from God? Why or why not?

3A. In this time of crisis, why is it important to trust in God's faithfulness (1 Samuel 12:16)?

3B. How does believing in God's great power affect your attitude to this crisis (1 Samuel 12:17-18)?

3C. Why must we be careful to avoid turning to empty things rather than serving the Lord (1 Samuel 12:20-21)?

3D. How can we reassure people of God's great love (1 Samuel 12:22)?

3E. How should we pray in this time of difficulty (1 Samuel 12:23)?