

**RCCG CTL LEKKI WORKERS MEETING SUNDAY 12TH MAY, 2024**

**TOPIC:  
INTEGRITY.**

**TEXT: MATHEW 5:37**

**“Let your yes be simply yes,  
and your no be simply no;  
anything more than that  
comes from the evil one.”**

**(AMP)**

# INTRODUCTION

There are various definitions of the word 'integrity', such as being honest, principled, trustworthy, etc. But Jesus Christ, who is the epitome of integrity, gave us the best and simplest definition of it, which is that our word must be our bond. When we say yes, we must truly mean to say yes, and when we say no, we must truly mean to say no

In other words, what we say or do, must align with or reflect exactly what is in our heart. When we say or do one thing whereas another thing is in our heart, it is indicative of lack of integrity. When we say one thing and do another, we manifest integrity deficiency.

If our word cannot be trusted on its face value, and we have to go to the extent of swearing so as to get others to believe us, then it is evidence of integrity deficiency. \* 1 Kgs 9:4-David walked with God 'in integrity of heart'.

# CHRISTIAN INTEGRITY

Mathew 5:13-16. Salt and Light  
-Jesus was saying: 'Show the world your integrity. Let them see how humble, truthful, honest, trustworthy, diligent, you are.'

# WHAT IT DEMANDS:

- Christian integrity demands that if truly we are born again, our lives must reflect the Christ that we profess, wherever we find ourselves. His virtues must be seen in us. Phil 2:5-‘Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.’
- There must be no gap between what we believe and profess and what we do, no matter the situation that we find ourselves in.

In practical terms, this means that:

- In challenging times, we must not waiver in our faith. For example in Daniel 3:17-18, when faced with imminent death, Shedrack, Meshack and Abednego, exhibited the integrity of a believer when they said, their God was able to save them from the fire, and even if not, so be it. But that they would never worship another god. By faith they stood upon the integrity of God's Word. They refuse to compromise. And God saved them.



Whenever we compromise our faith out of fear of persecution, desperation or to gain a favor, we display a lack of Christian integrity. In Mathew 5:1-11 Jesus Christ set us the example of how to stand in integrity in desperate situations. He was hungry and weary, and Satan gave Him very tempting offers, but Jesus stood firmly on the integrity of God's Word.

That's what He expects us to do in times of trouble. \*\*\*Unfortunately, many of us would rather lie our way out of trouble or pay the price of compromise that is being asked of us, so as to avoid trouble or persecution or gain a favor. Proverbs 28:6-'Better is the poor in his uprightness than he that is perverse in his ways, though he be rich.'

- Knowing what it cost Jesus to save us at Calvary, each time we discount His sacrifice by committing sin, we are displaying a lack of integrity, because we are repaying Him with betrayal, disloyalty and lack of appreciation. We are repaying good with evil. Knowing what it cost Jesus to save us at Calvary, each time we discount His sacrifice by committing sin, we are displaying a lack of integrity, because we are repaying Him with betrayal, disloyalty and lack of appreciation. We are repaying good with evil.

- Integrity demands that we stand by the truth no matter how difficult or dangerous the situation. Any attempt to bend the truth especially so as not to hurt those who need to hear it or curry favor is a manifestation of lack of integrity. Whether you were rich or poor, Jesus didn't care, He told them the truth. On one occasion (John 6:53-67), after telling the people the truth, most of His admirers and followers left Him.

## CONSEQUENCES OF LACK OF INTEGRITY

- Proverbs 10:9-A man of integrity is assured of safety, while the one lacking in integrity faces serious danger. Proverbs 11:3.
- God will not share His secrets with a man lacking in integrity

# CONCLUSION

Although Integrity cannot be achieved purely by self effort, we must be intentional about it. While we need divine help, there are things that God will not do for us because He already gave us the ability to do. For example, punctuality, setting boundaries for ourselves in terms of where we go and who mingle with, and ensuring that we don't live a fake life, are things we don't have to wait for the Holy Spirit to come and do for us.