



THE LOVE CHALLENGE
Part 9 – Love Is Honest
1 Corinthians 13:1-6

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I. INTRODUCTION

Integrity is deciding to integrate Godly values into my **daily actions**.

*Proverbs 28:6 "Better is the poor who walks in his **integrity**, than he who is crooked though he be rich."*

*1 Chronicles 29:17 "I know, my God, that You test the heart and are pleased with **integrity**."*

II. WHY IS HONESTY SO IMPORTANT?

A. There are three benefits to honesty that our relationships need:

1. **High Trust** – Low Fear.

*Psalm 25:21 "May integrity and uprightness **protect** me, because my hope is in God."*

2. **Security**.

*Proverbs 10:9 "The person of integrity walks **securely**."*

3. **Guidance**.

*Proverbs 11:3 "The integrity of the upright **guides** them."*

III. THREE PRINCIPLES TO BUILDING INTEGRITY.

A. **Commit** to telling the truth.

Matthew 5:33-37 (NIV) "Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not break your oath, but keep the oaths you have made to the Lord.' 34 But I tell you, Do not swear at all: either by heaven, for it is God's throne; 35 or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. 36 And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. 37 Simply let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one."

1. The Old Testament had given permission for people to swear by **God's name** as a way to verify their honesty.

Deuteronomy 6:13 says "Fear the LORD your God, serve him only and take your oaths in his name."

Leviticus 19:12 says "And you shall not swear falsely by My name, so as to profane the name of your God; I am the LORD."

Matthew 5:34-37 "But I say to you, make no oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God" 35 "or by the earth, for it is the footstool of His feet, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King." 36 "Nor shall you make an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black." 37 "But let your statement be, 'Yes, yes' or 'No, no'; and anything beyond these is of evil."

2. Jesus is saying, **guard** your words.

Ecclesiastes 5:4,5 "When you make a vow to God, do not be late in paying it, for He takes no delight in fools. Pay what you vow!" 5 "It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay."

3. Jesus is saying, **stop lying**.

Proverbs 12:22 says, "Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who deal faithfully are His delight."

B. Willingly admit **wrong**.

C. Choose to live **consistently**.

1. Consistency needs to entail three areas:

- a. Our **personal walk** with Christ.

