

# TENSIONS AND TRANSFORMATIONS

GROUP LEADER GUIDE: WEEK SEVEN

## THE VALUE OF PERSONAL INTEGRITY

## KEY VERSES

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**Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.” - Mark 12:30-31**

Key verses: Matthew 5:33-37

### **Words matter.**

Read Matthew 5:33-37

How important are your words to God? And why?

Were you raised with an environment where words matter?

[Watch this video.](#)

Integrity is the practice of keeping your word, following through with your promises, and fulfilling your responsibilities to God.

Do you have integrity?

Why should integrity be important to you personally?

### **Know yourself to lead yourself.**

Read Matthew 7:1-5

How important is it to know and measure yourself and your personal integrity?

How quickly do you point out the lack of integrity in others but not yourself?

What does hypocrisy do to your personal integrity and how does it damage your soul?

### **Matthew 5:33-37**

33. “Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not break your oath, but fulfill to the Lord the vows you have made.’ 34. But I tell you, do not swear an oath 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. All you need to say is simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.



How does our culture encourage it?

Integrity is the ability to live authentically without deceit or pretending to be better, worse, or more important than others.

**Religious integrity.**

Read James 4:13-17

How does pride effect our integrity in this section?

How have you experienced it in your own life?

**Model integrity.**

Where you raised with a good model of integrity?

Read Philippians 3:17-20

Where should you be looking for examples to follow?

Integrity refuses to compromise its ethical and moral standards refusing to abuse or misuse its relationships, resources, and privileges for your own advantage.

Set a guard over my mouth, LORD;  
keep watch over the door of my lips.  
Do not let my heart be drawn to what is evil  
so that I take part in wicked deeds  
along with those who are evildoers;  
do not let me eat their delicacies.  
Psalm 141:3-4

**CLOSING PRAYER**

Take one of the sections you just read, take 2-3 verses out of it and make it a personal prayer. As a group pray for the integrity of your lives, homes, and the church.