

Growth Group Homework

For the week of May 12, 2013

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

MY STORY

1. Chris talked about only allowing anger that pleases God. Where has your anger been tested the most?

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> On the road | <input type="checkbox"/> With family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dealing with a boss or coworker | <input type="checkbox"/> Politics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Your children | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Taxes | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

2. Can you think of a time when someone's integrity (or lack thereof) impacted you?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. This weekend we saw how Laban's greed led him to be envious of Jacob's wealth despite being a wealthy man himself. 1 Samuel 18 gives us the powerful example of Saul who was king of Israel and yet was so focused on what he didn't have, he couldn't experience the blessing of his kingdom. What do the following passages teach us about different ways we can be envious of others and the negative impact that can follow?

1 Samuel 18:

v.8

v.15

v.28-29

What impact have you seen envy have in your life or in the life of someone you know?

2. As Chris talked about this weekend, "great integrity is the best defense." We all like to project our ideal self to others (think Facebook/personal profile) but the reality is that our integrity is measured by who we are when no one's watching. Adding to that, it's important to have integrity in all aspects of our life and not just the ones we choose. What guidance do the following Scriptures give in having integrity in different areas of our life?

Proverbs 11:1

Matthew 25:37-40

Psalm 15:1-5

How does Proverbs 2:6-8 describe integrity as our defense?

3. The sermon stressed that “every home needs righteous anger” and made the point that there are times when being angry is completely appropriate. How do the following Scriptures help us temper our anger and respond to it in ways that please God?

Proverbs 19:11

Ephesians 4:31-32

Proverbs 29:11

When have you used or seen someone else use anger appropriately?

TAKING IT HOME

1. Looking back on “starting the long journey home,” are there any areas of integrity you want to focus on in the coming weeks?

2. Is there anything from this week’s sermon or homework for which you’d like prayer?

Prayer Requests:

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1 Samuel 18:

v.8 Saul was very angry; this refrain displeased him greatly. "They have credited David with tens of thousands," he thought, "but me with only thousands. What more can he get but the kingdom?"

v.15 When Saul saw how successful he was, he was afraid of him.

v.28-29 28 When Saul realized that the Lord was with David and that his daughter Michal loved David, 29 Saul became still more afraid of him, and he remained his enemy the rest of his days.

What impact have you seen envy have in your life or in the life of someone you know?

2. As Chris talked about this weekend, "great integrity is the best defense." We all like to project our ideal self to others (think Facebook/personal profile) but the reality is that our integrity is measured by who we are when no one's watching. Adding to that, it's important to have integrity in all aspects of our life and not just the ones we choose. What guidance do the following Scriptures give in having integrity in different areas of our life?

Proverbs 11:1

1 The Lord detests dishonest scales,
but accurate weights find favor with him. [NIV]

Matthew 25:37-40

37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' [NIV]

Psalms 15:1-5

A psalm of David.

1 Lord, who may dwell in your sacred tent?

Who may live on your holy mountain?

2 The one whose walk is blameless,
who does what is righteous,
who speaks the truth from their heart;

3 whose tongue utters no slander,
who does no wrong to a neighbor,
and casts no slur on others;

4 who despises a vile person
but honors those who fear the Lord;
who keeps an oath even when it hurts,
and does not change their mind;

5 who lends money to the poor without interest;
who does not accept a bribe against the innocent.

Whoever does these things
will never be shaken. [NIV]

How does Proverbs 2:6-8 describe integrity as our defense?

Proverbs 2:6-8

6 For the Lord gives wisdom;
from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

7 He holds success in store for the upright,
he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless,

8 for he guards the course of the just
and protects the way of his faithful ones. [NIV]

3. The sermon stressed that “every home needs righteous anger” and made the point that there are times when being angry is completely appropriate. How do the following Scriptures help us temper our anger and respond to it in ways that please God?

Proverbs 19:11

11 A person’s wisdom yields patience;
it is to one’s glory to overlook an offense. [NIV]

Ephesians 4:31-32

31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. 32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. [NIV]

Proverbs 29:11

11 Fools give full vent to their rage,
but the wise bring calm in the end. [NIV]

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