

46: INTEGRITY ON THE JOB

By [John Leavy](#)

In [Week 10: Discipleship at Work](#)

3 Min read



“A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold.” — Proverbs 22:1

Integrity is formed in the quiet stretches of the trail, where no one is watching, and no one is checking your work. The world says if there’s no one around to pat you on the back, you deserve to do it yourself. But lasting integrity is a conscious choice. I remember watching a football game one Sunday when the camera panned up to the skybox. The offensive coordinator was calling plays, and on his wrist was a yellow band that read, “Integrity is a choice,” echoing the wisdom of Proverbs 22:1.

On the job, the slow drift from integrity shows up in small ways. Cutting corners when deadlines are tight. Letting something slide because “it’s good enough.” Saying what needs to be said to stay in favor rather than what needs to be said to stay honest. None of these feel like major decisions in the moment, but they shape a man over time.

The twists and turns on the trail reveal a man’s integrity slowly, step by step, choice by choice. What a man repeatedly allows becomes the path he walks. Integrity isn’t tested when it’s easy, but when there’s pressure, opportunity, and no immediate consequence for doing the wrong thing.

APPLICATION

What's often left unsaid is that most men don't lose their integrity in a single moment. They trade it in small, quiet decisions that seem harmless at the time. The workplace becomes one of the easiest places for that to happen. The pressure is constant. Deadlines, expectations, personalities, and performance all create an environment where it feels easier to adjust the standard than to hold the line.

A man's integrity is not often challenged in big, obvious moments. His integrity is tested at work when handling responsibilities, when no one is looking. When he speaks, his integrity is challenged by adding just a little to a story to make himself look better. A man's integrity is challenged in how he spends his free time. It's challenged when he avoids difficult conversations. Or when he justifies attitudes that don't align with what he believes. The bottom line is, man's integrity is not lost all at once.

There's a cost that rarely gets talked about. Choosing integrity may slow you down. It may cost you recognition. It may even cost you an opportunity in the short term. But over time, it builds something that cannot be manufactured—trust. And trust becomes the foundation of influence, both with others and before God.

My wife, Kay, and I have often told our children that integrity is the only thing people cannot take away from you.

LIVE IT OUT

This week, choose one area at work where you've been tempted to cut a corner or stay silent. Correct it. Do the work fully, speak honestly, and follow through. No announcement. No recognition. Just alignment. Integrity is built in quiet decisions long before anyone else ever sees the outcome.

PRAY THIS...

"Lord, help guard against attacks to my integrity from the evil one. Lead me to stay the course."

Photo by [Redmind Studio](#) on [Unsplash](#)
[Download Print-Friendly version](#)

***Information lays the foundation—
Practice builds the man.***

Contact: John Leavy
Email: johndleavy@gmail.com
Website: 1Man2Another.com