Instructions for the Game of Life (Part 2) <u>Good Business Practices</u> (Selected Proverbs)

Introduction: Today the spirit of compromise is flourishing all around us: in politics, sports, business and even in the church. We need to back to the book of wisdom for some instructions on the game of life as it relates to integrity in business.

- I. What integrity in our everyday business <u>is</u>: (Prov. 6:6-11)
- **A.** A biblical principle when it comes to our own work God called us to do our work as if we were doing it for Him (Col 3:23-24)
- 1. There are those whose testimonies really suffer (Prov.24:30-34)
- 2. There are those who are takers in this world (Prov.6:9-10)
- 3. There are those who have big plans but never finish anything (Prov 13:4; 21:25)
- B. These kinds of people are not only a bad witness for Christ, but are costly to a business and the church (Prov 18:9; 12:27; 26:16; 22:13)

Integrity in our everyday business is a biblical principle - that whatever I am doing, I am doing it as unto the Lord...therefore I give it my all until it's done for his glory! It doesn't matter if I agree with everyone and everything or not. (Jn. 1:45)

- If you make a promise keep it!
- **If you give your word** honor it!
- If you make a commit do it!
- II. What integrity in our everyday business <u>is not</u>: (Prov.10:4)
- **A. Integrity is not perfection** The goal of the diligent worker is not perfection, but satisfaction that we have honored the Lord with our best! (Prov. 12:27; 21:5; 12:11a; 24a)

- **B.** Integrity is not sinlessness While other people are cutting corners, Christians are holding to a higher standard!
- C. Integrity is not never failing Learn from your failures and build on them...trust in God who is still working in and on you and turn constantly to His word for guidance and instruction!

Integrity in our everyday business keeps us working, learning from our failures, and building on them... As we trust in God who is still working in and on us, and we turn constantly to His word for guidance and instruction!

- **III.** What integrity in our everyday business <u>does</u>: (Daniel's story, the book of Daniel)
 - 1. Integrity Reflects godly wisdom (2 Cor. 4:4)
 - 2. Integrity Enjoys God's favor (Dan. 1:9)
 - 3. Integrity Results in fruitful ministry (Dan. 6:24-28)

Daniel's life became one of enormous influence and success all because of a decision he made as a youth: he chose a commitment to integrity over compromise.

Conclusion: Christian integrity – The absence of compromise and the presence of biblical convictions.

As we have seen through the book of wisdom the need for some instructions on the game.

We need to be people of integrity in our everyday business and in life in general.

My prayer is that today, as I do; you will ask the Lord to strengthen and encourage you to be one who walks with integrity.