

There is Hope Radio
2-16-25-Transcript
Honesty, Integrity, Transparency
PreacherRichD

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Your radio host is the Let's Get Real PreacherRichD of Creating Futures.

In today's broadcast, I'm going to be discussing the topic of being a person of honesty, integrity and transparency. People who are honest, have integrity and transparent or sincere are people we can trust. We may not always agree with people who are honest, have integrity and are sincere, but we know we can trust them. They are real. Not all individuals who are people of integrity are transparent. That can become an issue and that is the specific topic I want to speak on at this time.

When a person does not give full disclosure, it makes you wonder what they may be holding back. When a person makes you dig to get all the facts, it makes you wonder what they may be holding back. When a person refuses to answer questions in a sincere manner, it makes you suspicious of them.

Listen to me. If you want people to trust you, you need to be open, transparent and vulnerable. Pure honesty does not hold back. Pure honesty does not play it safe. Pure honesty is willing to take some hits for standing for the truth. If there is a good reason why you are holding back information, you need to acknowledge you are holding back information for a good purpose.

Okay, well now it's time to get really real. This is a get real moment. Why am I sharing all this? Because this broadcast originates in the city of Fairfield Bay, Arkansas, which has many issues like many other communities. One of the big ones is that there is much division and disunity. Some of that is because there is a mistrust of various entities. One of the big reasons for the mistrust is there is a feeling that there are secret alliances, secret meetings, hidden agendas. The full truth is not being shared. There are concerns that various people are not being honest and they have ulterior motives. And that echoes on both sides of this drama where there are feelings like this. So what happens is there becomes gossip, rumors, accusations, innuendos, insinuations. And all of this is from individuals not being transparent. And again, that's on all sides of this drama that goes on in Fairfield Bay. Have you seen it happen in your own community? Wherever you're listening to this radio show or this podcast?

If a person or entity wants to be trusted, be an open book with an open door policy. If you know what are specific concerns, address them. Be the first to bring them up.

Silence, secrecy, holding back information does not build trust. It does just the opposite. But someone will say, what about the antagonizers? What about those that are always accusing and making insinuations? What about those who seems like they are planning evil upon others? Do I really be open and vulnerable? Is there wisdom in being silent? Absolutely. There are people who will twist what you say. In Fairfield Bay, there's always the threat of a lawsuit. Isn't that sad? For your information, if you want to see entities be more open, honest, vulnerable, stop this whole lawsuit drama. Listen, being silent is not the answer to deal with

antagonizers, with the accusers. This just fuels the gossip and rumors. Speak the truth in love and move on. And yes, there's a time to move on. There's a time to ignore the doomsayers. You will never please them no matter what or how you do something.

Now I'm going to go even deeper in being real. This is a faith-based broadcast. And many who are part of the ongoing drama claim to be followers of Christ. Listen to me. If you're a follower of Jesus Christ, you need to be a person that walks in truth, that has integrity and is transparent or sincere. And you may ask, why do I combine transparent and sincere together? Because if you're a sincere person, then you're going to be a transparent person. You're going to be a vulnerable person. You're going to be willing to be challenged, to be questioned, and not be offended, not be hurt by it. And that you're going to give sincere, transparent answers, not smart-aleck comments, not lash back out. You're going to be, again, be vulnerable and open.

So since this is a faith-based broadcast, it would be important for us to take a look at some Bible verses to help determine what we should do. So listen to me. Here's some Bible verses on walking in honesty and integrity. And I want you to ask yourself, listen, ask yourself this hard question. Do these verses describe me or not? Listen, if there are areas that you need to do better at, then what should we all do when we are confronted by the word of God? We should repent of where we're falling short. And we need to get things right with the Lord. And at times, we need to get things right with individuals, especially if publicly we've done things that are not right. We need to publicly repent. And I'll be at some point doing a topic just on public repentance. That'll be Let's Get Real broadcast for sure, but we're not there yet.

So let's look at some Bible verses.

By the way, I should mention this. All these verses will be in the transcript of this broadcast. You can find the podcast and the transcripts for this show by going to creatingfutures.org/thereishope. That is creatingfutures.org/thereishope.

1 Corinthians 13:6

Love does not delight in evil, but rejoices with the truth.

Proverbs 12:22

The Lord detests lying lips, but he delights in those who tell the truth.

Titus 2:7

Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and your teachings show integrity and dignity.

Acts 24:16

So I always take pains to have a clear conscience toward both God and man.

Check your heart, in other words.

1 Peter 3:16

Having a good conscience so that when you're slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.

I want to read that one again.

1 Peter 3:16

Having a good conscience so that when you're slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.

Listen to me. If you operate in a way of love, you operate in a way of integrity, that you're a vulnerable person, when people make accusations against you, when they slander you, everybody will just laugh and say, well, that's not so-and-so. That's not who they are. That

doesn't describe their character. I know their character. They're a person, a man or woman of God. May that be the description of you.

And the final verse is an important one.

Philippians 4:8

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there isn't any excellence, if there's anything worthy of praise, think about those things.

And I would go further and say, not just think about those things, but do those things. So just take a look at that passage again.

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there's any excellence, if there's anything worthy of praise, think about those things.

And I will add, do those things. What would happen to the community of Fairfield Bay?

What would happen in the communities across America if each of us operated by that principle?

Well, I wanna go to prayer, but before I go to prayer, I wanna repeat the theme of this message. It needs to be heard all over Fairfield Bay, Arkansas and throughout America. People who are honest, have integrity, and transparent or sincere are people that can be trusted. So if you want people to trust you, be a person of honesty, integrity, and be vulnerable, be transparent, be sincere. Let your words, actions, behavior, silence, gossip, rumors, accusations, individuals, and insinuations.

So I'm gonna go to prayer. I do wanna mention that next week, I'm gonna share why some who claim to be standing for truth, standing for the good of the community are not trusted, and at times written off. It is because of the behavior they manifest. Listen, if you wanna be heard, change your attitude and your behavior.

Well, let's pray. Heavenly Father, here's the reality. All of us fall short of following the principles found in Philippians 4.8. There are times that if we are totally honest, we don't always speak truth, we twist truth, we give half truths, and we fall short. So Lord, we're asking for your forgiveness for that. Help us to be people that speak whatever is true.

Lord, the word says to speak what is honorable. In other words, we shouldn't be mocking, we shouldn't be hating, we shouldn't be attacking and criticizing individuals out of our hate or out of our vindictiveness, out of our wounding. The scripture says, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely.

Lord, help us to walk in purity. Help us to walk in love, that whatever the things that we do, whatever things we speak, how we handle situations, that we'd be people that are known that we do it out of love. Says whatever is commendable.

Lord God, I wanna live a life that people can commend me for the life that I'm living instead of attacking me for the life I'm living. If there's any excellence, if there's anything worthy of praise, think about those things. Lord God, we want it to be that our lives are such a way that people will praise the God that we know. That they would say, I wanna be a person of integrity like that person. I wish I could be as vulnerable as they are. They're obviously confident in who they are in Christ. That they know that it doesn't matter what people say, it's a matter of how they live. And Lord, I wanna live that way.

And Father God, we pray for Fairfield Bay and we pray for the communities across America. We pray for our churches, we pray for our homes, we pray for all of our government leaders. That Lord God, that there would be a purity of heart in each and every one of us and in our

community. We pray Father God, that there'd be healing in our communities. We pray Father God, that there would be a change of heart, of there would be a desire to work together. Not to attack, not to criticize, not to condemn, not to create drama. But instead Lord, we'd all wanna work together for the betterment of our communities. We'd work as a team. That Lord, we address the issues that need to be addressed in a godly way, in a healthy way. And that Father God, that our leaders will be more transparent. They'll be more willing to work with the community. And that this division that's taking place would go away. So Father God, what we really need is a move of God.

What we really need is more love than hate. What we really need is a revival in our land. And Lord, that can start with us first, that we can take care of those things that we need to take care of in our own personal life before we ever expect others to change.

And so Lord, will you help us? Will you bring a change in our community? And I pray this in Jesus' name.

You know, this radio show is called There is Hope, and I believe there is hope. There's hope for our communities. If we will allow God to reign, if we will get rid of narcissism, if we'll get rid of self-interest, if we'll get rid of pride, if we'll be willing to be more humble, if we're willing to be able to admit when we're wrong, if we'll be more transparent, if we'll be people of integrity, there could be some real change. And so there is hope. Through the gospel of Jesus Christ, through the sharing of the word of God, through the transformation and the change of lives, there's hope for this community, for every community.

So we would ask you to do something as I end here. Will you stand in the gap for Fairfield Bay, for your community? Will you pray and intercede for your community? Will you join with others to pray for your community? That's what we're doing through the ministry Standing in the Gap. That's what we're doing through this radio show, There is Hope.

We're trying to find ways where we can bring encouragement and make sure that we focus on prayer.

Well, I have another minute left of the broadcast today. So I just wanna talk from the heart. There are times that we need to give grace and mercy to others. All of us fall short. All of us aren't going to do things properly, correctly at times. All of us are gonna make mistakes. All of us are gonna fall short in sin. And we all want grace. We all want mercy. And if we want grace and mercy, we need to give it to others just as much as we want it for ourself. Let's be part of the positive change that can take place in the community so that there is hope.

Well, thank you for tuning in today. God bless you. You've been listening to There is Hope Radio.

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