

“Daniel: A Model of Integrity”
(Daniel 6:1-28)

I. Introduction:

- A. *Integrity Crisis in America* (R. Kent Hughes)
- *The Day America Told the Truth*
 - *Term Paper Blues?*
 - *The theft of inventory from department stores*
 - *The prayer of Fred Holloman*
- B. *Integrity Crisis in the Church*
- *The statistics according to Gallup*
 - *The ethical conduct of Christians*
- C. *Integrity: What is it?*
- *The interpretation*
 - *The instruction*
 - *Proverbs 10:9*
 - *Proverbs 11:3*
 - *The illustration: Daniel*

II. Exposition: Daniel: A Model of Integrity (6:1-28)

- A. Daniel's **character** (vv. 3-5)
1. *Daniel 1:12-15*
 2. *Daniel 5:11-12; 17*
- B. Daniel's **consistency** (v. 10)
1. *Daniel 1-4 – Nebuchadnezzar*
 2. *Daniel 5, 7, 8 – Belshazzar*
 3. *Daniel 6, 9 – Darius*
 4. *Daniel 10-12 – Cyrus*
- C. Daniel's **conviction** (vv. 10-11)
1. *Daniel 1:8*

- D. Daniel's **courage** (vv. 11)
1. *Daniel 4:27*
 2. *Daniel 5:22*

- E. Daniel's **conduct** (v. 22)
1. *Daniel 1:18-20*
 2. *Daniel 2:14*

- F. Daniel's **commendation** (v. 28)
1. *Daniel 2:46-49*
 2. *Daniel 5:29*

III. Conclusion:

- *Daniel as seen by others* (Daniel 1-6; Ezekiel)
- *Daniel's view of himself* (Daniel 9:4-19)
- *Daniel and Jesus* (John 8:29)

Questions to reflect on individually and discuss in Small Groups:

1. *What stuck out to you from the message? (What's your keeper?)*
2. *What are your thoughts as you reflect on the integrity crisis in America and in the church?*
3. *Why is integrity so important in the lives of believers? In other words, what happens when a person lacks integrity?*
4. *What most sticks out to you from Daniel's integrity? Which of the six descriptive words used to describe him do you need to most apply?*
5. *Theologian Helmut Thielicke said, "The avoidance of one small fib ... may be a stronger confession of faith than the whole 'Christian philosophy' championed in lengthy, forceful discussion."*
 - *What small fibs do you find yourself telling?*
 - *What can you do practically to stop doing this?*
6. *What stuck out to you from the conclusion?*
7. *Finish this sentence with the primary thing that God is leading you to do: "In light of these passages and this discussion, I will ..." (What is your action point?)*