

## Pastor's Weekly Devotional- September 17, 2015

### **"A Plea for Integrity"**

Semper Fidelis, "always faithful," is the motto the United States Marines Corps lives and dies by. With this ideal bannered above them, all marines dedicate their lives to honor and country.

Long before the founding of the Marine Corps, the Bible tells us about Daniel, who lived the motto Semper Fidelis. Darius, the Persian king, issued a thirty-day injunction forbidding prayers to any god or man except the king. The penalty – a horrible death in a lion's den. Daniel was aware of the new law but chose to obey God's law than the king's decree. He risked losing not only his job, his house, his prestige – he risked losing his life. That takes integrity. God did deliver Daniel eventually, but there are two enduring principles we can learn about integrity from Daniel:

First, *true integrity implies that you do what is right when no one is looking or when everyone else is compromising.* Every occupation requires integrity.

Second, *true integrity stays in place in the face of adversity or prosperity.* It does not vacillate.

Integrity has no hairline cracks. If a promise is made, it is kept. If a job is started, it is completed. Integrity has the guts to tell the truth; the courage to follow the true path; to endure laughter, embarrassment, or injury for what is right. It's sticking to your beliefs even if it means being thrown into a lion's den. Is this a description of you?

Have a blessed week. See you in church Sunday.  
Pastor Sewdin