

Women & More
A 'call' and 'walk' Experience

If You; Then You

Worksheet 8: **October 23, 2014**—*integrity*

There is a **ribbon of 'right' living—integrity—that runs** through the Bible: Whether spoken or implied there is that 'If' that will always result in a 'Then'! And it has to do with the choices and decisions we make. Our part is the 'If' and God's promise, or His warning, is the 'Then'!

"Lose all rather than lose your integrity,
and when all else is gone,
still hold fast a clear conscience as the rarest jewel
which can adorn the bosom of a mortal.
Be not guided by the will-o'-the-wisp of policy,
but by the pole star of divine authority.
Follow the right at all hazards.
When you see no present advantage,
walk by faith and not by sight."

Charles Spurgeon

Prepare by Soaking in Scripture:

Look at each verse and put its address in the Bible—from the list at the top—on the left.

Exodus 19:5a

Psalms 37:23, 27b

Isaiah 59:4

Leviticus 25:18

Psalms 91:9-10

Matthew 7:6

Deuteronomy 7:12

Proverbs 21:3

John 13:35

_____ (Implied: 'If' you love one another; 'then' all men will know you are mine) "*By this **all men will know that you are my disciples, if** you love one another.*"

_____ (God to Moses) "*Now **if** you obey me fully and keep my covenant, **then** out of all nations you will be my treasured possession.*"

_____ (Implied: 'If' you follow and obey; 'Then' you will live) "*Follow my decrees and be careful to obey my laws, and you will live safely in the land.*"

_____ "*To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice.*"

_____ "***If** you pay attention to these laws and are careful to follow them, **then** the LORD your God will keep his covenant of love with you, as he swore to your forefathers.*"

_____ "***If** the LORD delights in a man's way...**then** you will dwell in the land forever.*"

_____ "***If** you make the Most High your dwelling—even the LORD, who is my refuge—**then** no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent.*"

_____ (No integrity) "*No one calls for justice; **no one pleads his case with integrity.** They rely on empty arguments and speak lies; they conceive trouble and give birth to evil.*"

_____ **Scripture to Memorize:** "*Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. **If** you do, they may trample them under their feet, and **then** turn and tear you to pieces.*"

NOTES on Speaking Session:

Questions for Mentor-group Discussion:

1. Many Scripture verses say **if** you do this, **then** this will be the result, but many more imply that truth. **Jeremiah 6:16** is a powerful verse: “**Stand at the crossroads and look. Ask where the good way is, and walk in it, then you will find rest for your souls.**” Do we see the ‘if you; then you’ pattern? Write out the verse accordingly on the lines below.

[If you]

[If you]

_____ **and** _____

“Then you

_____.”

2. Scripture is clear that if we do the ‘right’—make right choices—we will receive good from the Lord’s hand. In what way or ways have you seen this truth in your own life?

“One strong non-compromising child of God is a powerhouse.”

Charles Stanley

3. Scripture is equally clear that if we do the ‘wrong’—make wrong decisions—we will receive evil from the Lord. While we don’t like to go here, we must; so in what way or ways have you seen this truth come to pass in your own life?

“What we do or do not do will matter forever!”

Andy Andrews

Recommended Reading:

Living Wisely, Charles Stanley

On the Anvil, Max Lucado

Butterfly Effect

“The phrase refers to the idea that a flapping butterfly’s wings might create tiny changes in the atmosphere that may ultimately alter the path of a tornado or delay, accelerate, or even prevent the occurrence of a tornado in another location.

“In chaos theory, the butterfly effect is the sensitive dependency on initial conditions in which a small change at one place in a deterministic non-linear system can result in large differences in a later state.”

Source: Wikipedia

In 1963, Edward N. Lorenz had published a theoretical study of this effect in a well-known paper called *Deterministic Nonperiodic Flow*. A summation of his presentation ended with these words: “...one flap of a seagull’s wings could change the course of weather forever.” In later speeches and papers, Lorenz incorporated the more poetic butterfly. (Several movies have been made titled: *The Butterfly Effect*.)

Listed below are 12 of 20 topics related to this phenomena:

- Actuality and potentiality
- Avalanche effect
- Behavioral cusp
- Cascading failure
- Casualty
- Chain reaction
- Determinism
- Domino effect
- Ripple effect
- Snowball effect
- Point of divergence
- Law of unintended consequences

Nothing is ever left to chance! God Almighty is Sovereign and involved in every single move made on this earth; He sustains it, and if we, His children, obey Him, we can leave all the consequences to Him!

A Few More ‘if’ you ‘then’ you Verses

Exodus 15:26—“**If** you listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in his eyes, **if** you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, **[then]** I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who heals you.”

Leviticus 26:2-4—“Observe my Sabbaths and have reverence for my sanctuary. I am the LORD. **3If** you follow my decrees and are careful to obey my commands, **4 [then]** I will send you rain in its season, and the ground will yield its crops and the trees of the field their fruit.”

Deuteronomy 11:13-14—“So **if** you faithfully obey the commands I am giving you today—to love the LORD your God and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul—**14then** I will send rain on your land in its season, both autumn and spring rains, so that you may gather in your grain, new wine and oil.” And Deuteronomy 11:26-28 (what the Israelites do or do not do would determine blessing or curse)—“See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse—**27the blessing if** you obey the commands of the LORD your God that I am giving you today; **28the curse if** you disobey the commands of the LORD your God and turn from the way that I command you today by following other gods, which you have not known.” Obedience would bring the blessing!

Psalm 41:1-3 says: “Blessed is he who has regard for the weak; (**IF** we have regard for the weak, **THEN** look what God will do):

- the LORD **delivers** him in times of trouble.
- **2The LORD will protect him and preserve his life;**
 - he will **bless** him in the land and
 - **not surrender him** to the desire of his foes.
 - **3The LORD will sustain him on his sickbed and**
 - **restore him from his bed of illness.**”

Jeremiah 6:16 is a powerful verse: [If you] “**Stand** at the crossroads and **look**.” [If you] “**Ask** where the good way is, and **walk** in it, **then** you will find rest for your souls.”

Zechariah 3:7-8 is a charge to Joshua the high Priest: “This is what the LORD Almighty says: **If** you will walk in my ways and keep my requirements, **then** you will govern my house and have charge of my courts, and I will give you a place among these standing here.” Also Zechariah 6:15c “This will happen **if** you diligently obey the LORD your God.”

Matthew 6:14-15—“For **if** you forgive men when they sin against you, (then) your heavenly Father will also forgive you. **15But if** you do not forgive men their sins, (then) your Father will not forgive your sins.”

Acts 16:31, after the jailer asked Paul and Silas what he should do to be saved—“They replied, [If you] ‘Believe in the Lord Jesus, and (then) you will be saved—you and your household.’”