Personal Integrity

We will live in a manner that inspires trust and confidence, bearing the fruit of the Spirit, and seeking to manifest the character of Christ in all our behaviour.

- **A.** <u>Live in manner that inspires Trust and confidence:</u> A Christian should be trustworthy, dependable, and a person of his word (1 Peter 2:11, 12). Therefore,
 - 1. The swearing of oaths is contrary to a Christian's trustworthiness and should be avoided: (Mathew 5:34-37; James 5:12; Ecclesiastes 5:4-5; Proverbs 20:25).
 - 2. Christ, by word and example, taught that we love our enemy; (Mathew 5:43-48)
 - 3. Christ, by word and example, taught that we prefer our brother: (Romans 12:10; Philippians 2:3; 1John 3:16)
 - **4. Behave in a way that will point others to Christ**: Salt and Light; Salt preserve, light direct others to see Christ. (Mathew 5:13-16; 1Corinthians 11:1).
- **B.** Bearing the Fruit of the Spirit: If we live in the Spirit, we will manifest the fruit of the Spirit in our attitudes and actions; and will not fulfil the lusts of the flesh. (Galatians 5:16,22-25).
 - 1. Positive relationship with the Lord: (Matthew 22:37-40).
 - 2. Trustful relationships with others are a natural outgrowth of our Positive relationship with the Lord. (1John 1:7). We work to restore relationship, but we don't compromise. We work for peace but we don't agree with wickedness (Matthew 10:34-38; Luke 12:49-53).
 - 3. A lack of fruit bearing in our lives will be judge: (Luke 13:6-9; Mathew 7:16-20; John 15:1-8, Mathew 7:22-23).
- C. Seeking to manifest the Characters of Christ in our lives:
 - 1. Love for others is the hallmark of the Christ-life: (John 13:34,35; 15:9-13; 1 John 4:7-11).
 - 2. Jesus displayed submission in His relationship with His Father: (Luke 22:42; John 4:34; 5:30).
 - 3. Acceptance in His relationship with others: (John 8:11).
 - 4. Compassion for others: (Mathew 9:36; Mark 6:34).
 - 5. Forgiveness for others: (Mathew 9:2; Luke 5:20).

We cannot bear the fruit of the Spirit and manifest the character of Christ without being spiritually joined to Christ (John 15:4,5) and without having the seed of the Word planted in our hearts (John 15:3; 1Peter 1:22,23; Colossians 3:16).