# "Being the Difference" Integrity
Don Williams- September 24, 2023

***The pathway to making a lasting difference is by first <u>being</u> the difference***

***Integrity is saying what is true when everyone is listening and doing what is right when no one is watching.***

<u>Matthew 22:15-22</u>
*"Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap Him in His words. [16] They sent their disciples to Him along with the Herodians. "Teacher," they said, "we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren't swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are. [17] Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not?"*

*[18] But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, "You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? [19] Show me the coin used for paying the tax." They brought Him a denarius, [20] and He asked them, "Whose image is this? And whose inscription?"*

*[21] "Caesar's," they replied. Then He said to them, "So give back to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's."*

*[22] When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left Him and went away."*

**<u>Why is Integrity Important?</u>**

**1) Integrity is the foundation for all your life**

<u>Proverbs 2:7 (NLT)</u>
*"God is a shield to those who walk in integrity."*

*You can lose a lot of stuff in this life but do not lose your integrity.*

**2) People are always watching**

**<u>Examining our Integrity</u>**

**1) Is there any way that I compartmentalize my life?**

**2) Are my personal goals being achieved with Godly character?**

*The most direct path to success is not always the path of integrity.*

***3) Are you minding the gap?***

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