

**IronWorks: INTEGRITY**  
**“Character that Meets the Demands of Reality”**  
**Lessons from the life of Nehemiah**  
**January 13 & 18, 2023 - Teacher: Roger Thompson**

**Integrity** is a man's character, ethics and morals. . . . but it is more.

- Integrity is the state of being whole, and undivided (nation)
- Integrity is the condition of soundness (structure)
- Integrity is internal consistency (non-contradictory)

**Integrity is wholeness, of being INTEGRATED in all dimensions**

An integrated man (a man of integrity), beyond being honest and moral. . .

- Gains trust of the people he leads
- Sees and owns the realities in front of him
- Actually produces desired outcomes
- Deals with problem people, setbacks and losses
- Stimulates growth in the people around him
- Transcends his own interests for a larger purpose

**Nehemiah: the integrated man**

- Nehemiah 1:1-11

**Integrity is Authentic**

- **Curious:** *I asked them concerning the Jews who escaped, who had survived the exile, and concerning Jerusalem. (v.2)*

**Is there a hard question of someone that I need to be asking?**

- **Understanding:** *The remnant there in the province who had survived the exile is in great trouble and shame. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates are destroyed by fire. (v. 3)*

**Have I paused to understand the depth of someone's pain?**

- **Tender:** *I sat down and wept and mourned for days, and continuing fasting and praying before the God of heaven. (v. 4)*

**Am I in touch with my deeper emotions?**

- **Poised:** *Now I was cupbearer to the king. (v. 11)*

**Have I been placed in a position to have influence?**

### **Discussion Questions**

- 1) What have I learned from Nehemiah that enlarges my view of integrity?
- 2) Someone has said: “A weakness is a strength overused.” Is there a strength I overuse to the neglect of being integrated in other areas?
- 3) Of the four questions in the lesson above, which one do I need to take home with me and apply?