

## *Pk's Perspectives...* Honesty

James Krames relates this interesting and true story. There was a young Christian man in a southern university. He made the football team as a starting wide receiver. And he continually was before God saying, "Help me in the climax of moments to be absolutely honest. I pray for honesty – that one mark of integrity. I want to be that, Lord, and I'll work on it through the season."

The rival team came that night, homecoming. He ran his route and went into the end zone. The quarterback shot him the pass and he got it low. He landed on it, and the referee signaled, "Touchdown!" But that boy knew he had trapped the ball. (For you who aren't into football, this means he didn't really catch the ball; he landed on the ball while it was on the ground and it looked like he caught it.) The stands were just cheering, you know, sending him on his way, the hero of the game. He said, "Wait a minute." Can you imagine this? He walked up to the referee and shook his head. He said, "I trapped it." The referee canceled the touchdown and they eventually lost the game. Now you may not understand much about football, but you know what it is to be a fan. And that boy stood all alone, not only against a team that said, "What does it matter, dude?" but also against the stands full of people. He said, "I can't take the credit. I did not catch it."

On January 5 of this year, in a Hopman Cup match between American tennis player Jack Sock and Australian veteran Lleyton Hewitt, a ball was called out on a Hewitt serve. Hewitt went to take his second serve, when Sock stopped him and told him to challenge the call. "That was in if you want to challenge it," he said. Hewitt was visibly shocked by Sock's words, but then agreed to challenge the call. The chair umpire pointed out that Sock had already conceded the point, but decided to have some fun with it. They went to the board, and there it was — in. The crowd erupted in applause, and Hewitt went on to win the match. Search "Jack Sock v Lleyton Hewitt" on YouTube if you want to see the video clip of this encouraging display of honesty and sportsmanship.

Paul Lee Tan likes to share the following story. After his Sunday messages, the pastor of a church in London got on the trolley Monday morning to go back to his study downtown. He paid his fare, and the trolley driver gave him too much change. The pastor sat down, shuffled the change he had been given, and looked it over, counting it eight or nine times. The pastor first began rationalizing with thoughts of "It's wonderful how God provides." He knew his finances were tight that week and this "extra" change was just about what he would need to break even, or at least enough for his lunch. He wrestled with himself all the way down that old trolley trail that led to his office. Finally he came to his stop, got up from his seat, walked up to the trolley driver and said, "Here, you gave me too much change. You made a mistake." The driver said, "No, it was no mistake. You see, I was in your church last night when you spoke on honesty and I thought I would put you to the test."

The Bible says, "And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ." (Philippians 1:9-10) It's a good thing when our actions mirror our faith. And I'm being totally honest in saying, "I hope to see you in Sunday School & Worship this week!" Pk