

7. Do Your Best At **Work**.

"Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much ..." Luke 16:10

"And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?" Luke 16:12

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men ..." Colossians 3:23

8. Commit Yourself To A **Church**.

"... so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." Romans 12:5

"Let us not give up meeting together ... but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Hebrews 10:25

"By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another." John 13:35

(All scripture references are New International Version unless otherwise noted)

Pastor Dave Sawkins
(Saturday at 5:00PM and Sunday at 10:45AM)

May 17-18, 2008

FAITHFULNESS "Fruit Of The Spirit" Galatians 5:22-23

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control ..."
Galatians 5:22-23

Faithfulness means that you can be **counted on**.

"Everyone talks about how loyal and faithful he is, but just try to find someone who really is!" Proverbs 20:6 (GNT)

Faithfulness means to be:

- **Reliable**
- **Trustworthy**
- **Dependable**
- **Consistent**

FAITHFULNESS

I. WHY IS FAITHFULNESS IMPORTANT?

1. Because **God** is faithful

"... He is faithful in all He does." Psalm 33:4

2. Because unfaithfulness is the cause of so many **problems** in life

"Like a bad tooth or a lame foot is reliance on the unfaithful in times of trouble." Proverbs 25:19

3. Because God **rewards** faithfulness

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'" Matthew 25:21

"Therefore we do not lose heart. ... we fix our eyes ... on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

II. EIGHT CHARACTERISTICS OF FAITHFULNESS

1. Keep Your **Promises**.

"Like clouds and wind without rain is a man who boasts of gifts he does not give." Proverbs 25:14

"It is a trap for a man to dedicate something rashly and only later to consider his vows." Proverbs 20:25

"It is better not to vow than to make a vow and not fulfill it." Ecclesiastes 5:5

Jesus—*"Simply let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one."* Matthew 5:37

2. Honor Your **Family** Relationships.

"Marriage should be honored by all ..." Hebrews 13:4

"Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord." Ephesians 6:4

"Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise—"that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." Ephesians 6:2-3

3. Use Your **Giftedness**.

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10

4. Make Your **Time** Count.

"Live life, then, with a due sense of responsibility, not as men who do not know the meaning and purpose of life but as those who do. Make the best use of your time ..." Ephesians 5:15 (Ph)

5. Stand By Your **Friends**.

"A true friend is always loyal, and a brother is born to help in time of need." Proverbs 17:17 (TLB)

6. Manage Your **Money**.

"So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?" Luke 16:11

"On every Lord's Day each of you should put aside something from what you have earned during the week, and use it for this offering. The amount depends on how much the Lord has helped you earn. ..." 1 Corinthians 16:2 (TLB)