



If you are what you are
meant to be, you will set
the whole world on fire.

St. Catherine of Siena



INTEGRITY IN MINISTRY

COR VITAE
CHRIS CHAPLIN, MSC

INTEGRITY

Reflection on your personal experience:

- ▶ What does ***integrity*** mean to you?
(write your reflection in the chat box).
- ▶ What would you have to do to ***live with integrity***?
(write a personal note for yourself).

INTEGRITY

- ▶ Latin *integritas* means ‘intact’, the state of being whole and undivided.
- ▶ The quality of being honest and having strong moral principles.
- ▶ *“If you wish to be a good priest first be a good MSC. If you wish to be a good MSC first be a good person.”*

Homily of Bishop Geoffrey Robinson

What influences a Person's capacity for Integrity?

▶ Human motivations:

▶ **NEEDS** –

- ▶ CONSCIOUS
- ▶ UNCONSCIOUS

▶ **VALUES** –

- ▶ HUMAN or NATURAL
- ▶ THEOCENTRIC SELF-TRANSCENDING (TST or GOSPEL Values)



Three Dimensions of interaction between our needs & values;

1

Our Conscious Needs and the Gospel Values



VIRTUE

SIN

- *full culpability*

Three Dimensions of interaction between our needs & values;

2

Our Unconscious Needs and the Gospel Values



CONSISTENCY

INCONSISTENCY

- *limitation of culpability*

Three Dimensions of interaction between our needs & values;

3

Our Needs and Natural or Human Values



HEALTH

PATHOLOGY

- *my capacity to function as a healthy person*

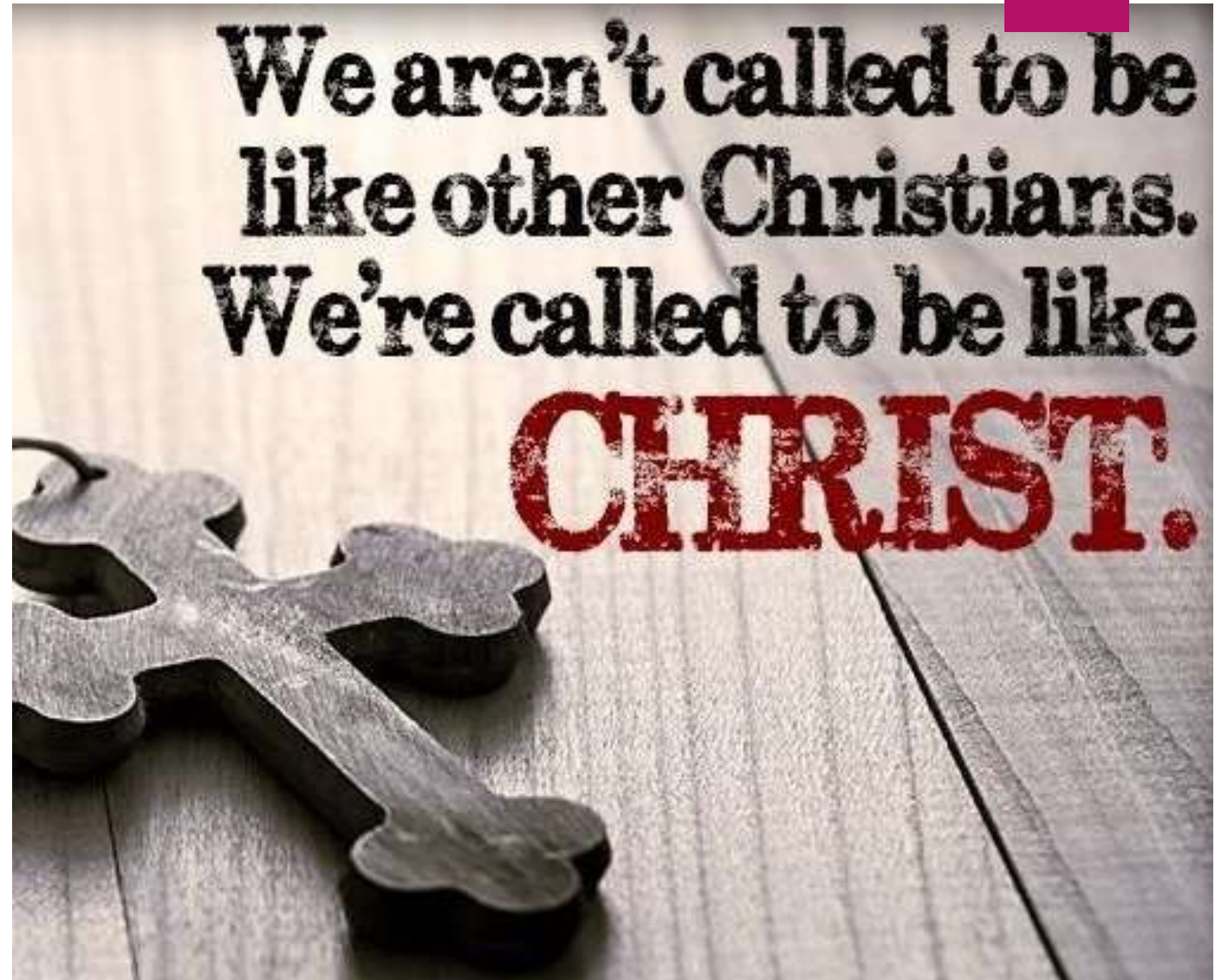
Experience of the Human Person

- ▶ What we do not deal with at a conscious level will be manifested from the unconscious at a symptomatic level.
- ▶ **Break-out groups:** What behaviours have you seen, where it appears to you that the real reason for the person's behaviour is hidden from them? *(take 15 mins to share and come back with at least one example from your group.)*

Experience of the Human Person

- ▶ Behaviour does not show the true nature of what is hidden in the unconscious - so we can not assume someone's integrity by observing behaviours.
- ▶ **Reflection:** Think of an example of when you assumed, that a person's behaviour meant one thing, but you discovered later your assumption was incorrect and that something different was going on for that person?

- ▶ Moral character is formed by one's actions. The habits, actions, and emotional responses of the person of good character all are united and directed toward the moral and the good.



Experience of the Human Person

- ▶ Because human beings are body/soul unities, actions of the body are actions of the self, that is, human beings are self-possessing, self-governing, and self-determining.
- ▶ In order to be of good character, one must know the good, act in morally good ways, and be disposed and inclined toward the good through the development of virtues.

Experience of the Human Person

- ▶ Integrity is a deliberate engagement with the **unconscious** self.
- ▶ This engagement may activate **defensive mechanisms**: compensation, denial, displacement, identification, introjection, projection, reaction formation, rationalization, regression, repression, ritual & undoing, and sublimation.
- ▶ **Reflection**: A classic example of reaction formation, is a young boy who bullies a young girl because, on a subconscious level, he's attracted to her.
What example can you give of a defence mechanism?

DEFENSIVENESS is used to protect ourselves

- ▶ Needs can be
 - ▶ **Defensively Consistent** with Gospel Values
(e.g.; I **show care** for everyone else because I'm **too fearful** to acknowledge my own needs)
 - ▶ **Defensively Inconsistent** with Gospel Values
(e.g.; I **bully** others and **dominate** them because I **need to feel in control**)
- ▶ The root of Defensiveness is **VULNERABILITY**
What are the signs of your own defensiveness?

Lack of Integrity: DISINTEGRITY

In Break-Out Groups share:

- ▶ What is your experience of your own **lack of integrity** in your personal life?
- ▶ What is your experience of the **lack of integrity of other people** and **how has it affected you** in your own life?

Discerning which motivations influence my life and actions:

- ▶ I grow in integrity when my **needs and values are consistent** with each other - when **life and actions reflect the values of the Gospel, or in other words, when my life, like Jesus, is self-giving and self-transcending.**
- ▶ My integrity is not proven by my talking about the Gospel or outward shows of religiosity.





Discerning which motivations influence my life and actions:

- ▶ The only way to live like Jesus is to know him. To know what he did, know what he said, talk with him constantly, and learn to listen to his voice, and yes, *Do What Jesus Wants You to Do!*
- ▶ In what ways are your actions consistent with the actions of Jesus?

Philippians 2:2-11

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross.



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