



<b>DATE</b>	October 4, 2015
<b>SPEAKER</b>	David Smith
<b>TITLE</b>	Loyal
<b>SERIES</b>	What is wisdom? When is it apparent? How is it gained? Jesus answers these questions when He says wisdom begins with good character. Join us as we look at the character traits Jesus identifies as building blocks for wisdom.

### Get to Know Me

1. What words would you use to describe your character?
2. What words would OTHER people use to describe your character?
3. What one "fruit of the spirit" from Galatians 5:22-23 best describes you. Why?
4. Read Psalm 51:16-17 and Hebrews 10:1-18. How do these scriptures help us to better understand what Jesus desires from us?

### Into the Bible Level 1

Exodus 20: 1-17

1. Which commandments are vertical? Which are horizontal?
2. Review the definition of character. Compare it to the definition of loyalty. How are these two related?

### Into the Bible Level 2

1. Read 1 Cor. 10: 23-24 Paul says things that are legal are not necessarily good. Discuss some legal things that could actually cause harm to yourself or others.
2. If temptation is like the bird that flies overhead, how do you keep it from building a nest your hair?
3. David Smith said he wants us to grasp how to handle our desires. How do we accomplish that? Share an example.

## Application:

### Priming the pump

David used 4 points to describe loyal: radically dealing with desires (Matt 5:27-30); a commitment not to harm (Matt 5:31-32); what you do, not what you say (Matt 5:33-3) and always rewarded (Psalm 84:10-14).

1. Which of the first three is constantly a failure for you? (Think beyond the specific situations in these verses). What have you done or do you need to do to conquer your failure?

### Connecting

David said, "Disloyal human relationships impacts divine relationships." He also gave a corollary, "A loyal divine relationship fuels loyal human relationships."

2. Describe a time when you were disloyal or when someone was disloyal to you. How did the situation impact your relationship with God?

3. Describe a time when you were tempted to be disloyal, but your will acting in cooperation with the Holy Spirit thwarted it.

### Digging Deeper

This is the list that David referred to about how to control you.

- Never say never; everyone is vulnerable – 1 Corinthians 10:12
- Maintain a regular diet of God's word - Psalm 119:105
- Recognize temptation; run! – 2 Timothy 2:22
- Guard your input - 2 Corinthians 10:5
- Protect your eyes; respect them - 1 John 2:16
- Be careful what you promise - Matt 5:34-37, James 5:12
- Find accountability - Proverbs 27:17
- Think about the consequences - Proverbs 25:28

4. An aspect of the fruit of the Spirit is self-control. How do think the Holy Spirit can make a difference? Share a time when you included the Holy Spirit in situation where you were struggling with self-control and you were amazed by the outcome.