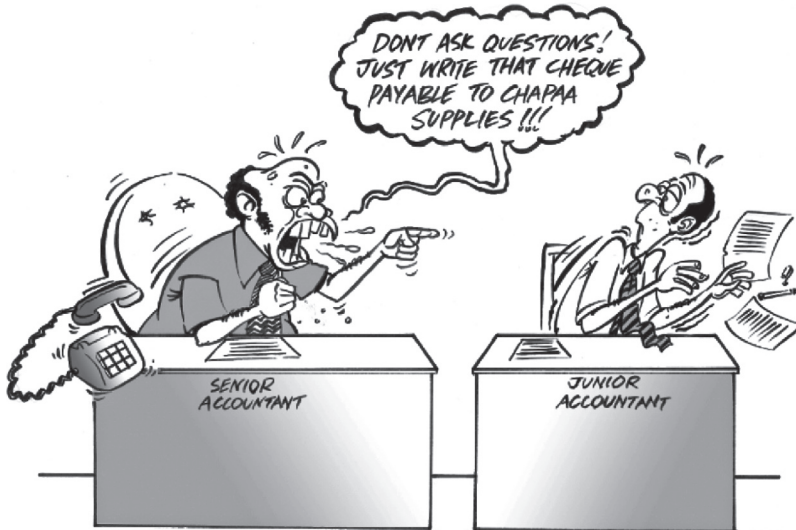


8 DEVELOPING VALUES: THE PILLAR OF INTEGRITY



A. Introduction

In our attempt to live godly lives, we sometimes encounter cartels that protect an engrained culture of evil. These hinder organizational progress and sabotage any efforts towards transparency and better management of resources. The people who make a difference are often lone voices that make huge sacrifices. They endanger their professions and even their own lives. Daniel is such a man. He teaches us that we too can make a difference if we were determined to uphold integrity in our work places and communities. Even though immediate rewards are not guaranteed, we can leave behind a legacy that will affect many generations to come.

B. Challenges of Integrity: Daniel 6:1-17

1. Outline the events described in this passage.
2. a. What character traits do you see in the life of Daniel in this passage? Why do you think he upheld them?

- b. What dangers was he exposed to as a result of his strong principles?
3. Are there instances in your life when, like Daniel, there was need for you to stand up for your values in the midst of opposition? What transpired?

C. Rewards of Integrity: Daniel 6:18-28

1. What transpired after Daniel was thrown into the den of lions?
2. What were the ultimate consequences of Daniel's firmness?
3. Drawing from Daniel's example, what might be the ultimate rewards of integrity to:
 - a. An individual?
 - b . A society/nation?

D. Memory Verse: Daniel 6:4

"At this, the administrators and the satraps tried to find grounds for charges against Daniel in his conduct of government affairs, but they were unable to do so. They could find no corruption in him, because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor negligent."

E. Point of Reflection

Would you call yourself a person of integrity? On a scale of one to four, between poor, average, good and excellent, how would you rate yourself in this area?

Additional Passage

Genesis 39:4-12.