



## 21-DAY FAST Devotional #10—STEPPING IN DOG POO

By Pastor Myron D. Atkinson

This week we have been dealing with “winning within!” All of us want to be able to look in the mirror and like what we see. That’s why it’s so important for us to be people of integrity (*Doing what’s right even when no one else is looking!*). In being people of integrity, it’s important to ask ourselves some questions. Too often we don’t think of the consequences of our actions to ourselves, our families, friends, or others. Sin can be so appealing at times, but it only lasts for a season or a fleeting moment (***Hebrews 11:25 NLT***), and then comes the aftermath. If we think and seek God first, it can save us from a lot of heart ache and grief.

As we consider the consequences of sin, we also need to realize that other people are watching us, and that our actions affect other people. Even a frown at the wrong time can affect our witness to others. Sometime ago I was driving a van filled with people. I didn’t realize it, but just before I had gotten into the van, I had stepped in dog poop. Before long the entire van reeked of the smell and people were becoming nauseated. Now stepping in dog poop was innocent enough, but my action certainly affected the others in the van. In the same way, our lives affect and impact others! Paul said in ***2 Corinthians 6:3 (“NLT”)***, “**We live in such a way that no one will stumble because of us, and no one will find fault...**” And then Jesus said in ***Matthew 5:16 (NLT)*** “**In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.**” Our actions do affect others and should draw people to God!

Far too often we ignore the consequences of our actions and instead, see how close to sin we can get, believing in the back of our minds that God will forgive us. In reality, we should be seeing how close to God we can get. That’s where integrity comes in.

**Question for today:** What can you do today to be more conscientious of your words, actions, and thoughts?

**Verses to look up:** Titus 2:7, Ephesians 2:6-8, John 13:15, Philippians 3:17, 1 Timothy 4:12

**Prayer for this week:** Dear Jesus, thank you for loving me, giving your life, rising again, and for giving me your Holy Spirit. Help me this day to not drift from the vine and into vice. I know that there is a power that comes from staying connected to You which enables me to bear fruit. Help me to walk in Your power! May others see the fruit that is being produced in my life, through my relationship with You, and that they will desire to do the same. I pray for my church that we will see breakthrough! Help people to come to you through my witness and through my congregation. I pray for breakthrough in marriages, health, finances, emotions, habits, and all areas. May I be the person You want me to be and may our church be the church You want us to be. Let change begin in my heart and flow over to my home, my church, and my community! Amen