

Women of Africa Care Pty Ltd

YALO On Air – 08 September 2024
Inspiration brought to you by Women of Africa Care operating in South Africa
Produced in association with Gospel4Grampian Radio.
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Topic: Reputational Damage!

“It takes many good deeds to build a good reputation, and only one bad one to lose it.”

— Benjamin Franklin

Matthew 5.16 - In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Proverbs 22:1 ESV A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold.

How to address a negative situation or scandal the biblical way?

Titus 2.11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, 12 training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, 13 waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works. 15 Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

James 1.19 - Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. 20Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires. 21So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.22But don’t just listen to God’s word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. 23For if you listen to the word and don’t obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. 24You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. 25But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don’t forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.26If you claim to be religious but don’t control your tongue, you are fooling yourself, and your religion is worthless. 27Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you.

Philippians 4:8 - Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Romans 5.3 We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. 4And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. 5And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.

“Character” Biblehub - Greek - character,(dokimē)process or result of) trial, proving, approval a trial, proof; tried, approved character.

“A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, loving favor rather than silver and gold.” proverbs 22:1

“In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.” Titus 2:7-8 (NIV)

“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.” 1 Timothy 4:12 (NIV)

Ecc 7.1 A good name is better than fine perfume, and the day of death better than the day of birth verse 29.Truly,I found only this: That God made man upright, But they have sought out many devices (for evil).”

Acts 23.1 Paul tells the Jewish high council “Gazing intently at the high council,a Paul began: “Brothers, I have always lived before God with a clear conscience!”

Conscience in greek is syneídēsis menas "to know, see" – properly, joint-knowing, i.e. conscience which joins moral and spiritual consciousness as part of being created in the divine image. Accordingly, all people have this God-given capacity to know right from wrong because each is a free moral agent.

["Conscience (4893 /syneídēsis) is an innate discernment, self-judging consciousness"

1 Tim 4.2 1The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. 2Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron.

“seared with a hot iron” (kautēriázō) literally referred to branding a person with a red-hot iron which sears the flesh and deadens (numbs) the nerves. After this, the person no longer feels obvious impulses (pleasure or pain).]

2 Cor 4.2 2Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to everyone’s conscience in the sight of God.

1 Tim 3.8 In the same way, deacons are to be worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. 9They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience.

How do you attain a clear conscience?

John 3.30 - He must increase, but I must decrease.

1 Peter 2:12 - Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation.

1 Tim 3.7 He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.

Acts 6.3 - Therefore, brethren, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task.

Life by the Spirit Gal 5.16 So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever c you want. 18But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. 19The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.22But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. 26Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.