Whatever Became of Integrity Ray Stedman

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: I Thessalonians 2:1-12.
- B. Paul had a deep concern for the development of his churches.

II. The first essential for helping someone else is courage.

- A. It takes courage to reach out to our peers.
- B. The wrong reason for boldness is peddling for money.
- C. The right reason for boldness is glorying in the opportunity to share the gospel.
- D. The only way one should want to please God is because he loves Him.
- E. The wellspring of courage is love.
- III. The second essential is gentleness. Paul said that he longed to help his churches.
- IV. The third essential is hard work.
- V. The final essential is faithfulness.
 - A. This is integrity.
 - B. The Old Testament speaks to the beauty of holiness. Paul was righteous in his behavior.
 - C. Paul was blameless having dealt with his sin.

Application questions:

1. Which of the essentials for helping others strikes you the most?

2. What areas of the Christian life do you find it most difficult to maintain courage?

3. Who is a model to you in your own life of faithfulness? What makes his or her example stand out?