



TALKINGPOINTS WALKINGPOINTS

Talk together about the glory of God's kingdom. —Psalm 145:11
Love the Lord your God and **walk** in all his ways. —Joshua 22:5

October 11, 2026

Anchored in the Storm
Assurance in the Psalms
Living With Integrity
(2 of 8)

Questions for Reflection or Discussion

Observation — What does it say?

Read Psalm 26, then...

1. In v. 1-2, what does David ask God to do for him—and why?
2. In v. 4-5, with what kinds of people does David say he refuses to associate?
3. In v. 5a and 8a, David describes opposite emotional/volitional choices. What are they and toward whom or what are they directed?
4. Circle the word “walk” in v. 1, 3 and 11. In what does David claim to walk in v. 1?...In v. 3?

When does David claim to walk in integrity?

Interpretation — What does it mean?

5. How did Pastor Doug define “integrity”, and why does it require careful attention to our relationships?
6. In v. 6 David declared that he “hates the company of evildoers and refuses to sit with the wicked”. At webstersdictionary1828.com write down definition #2 of “evil” and definition #1 of “wicked”. In your circles (home, neighborhood, workplace, television, internet, video games, etc.), what are some influences which qualify as “evil” or “wicked”?

Application — What do I do with this?

7. In question #3,
 - We learned that David hates being around evildoers and then in question #6 you identified some influences in your life today which qualify as “evil”. In which of those evil influences do you “sit” or “go with” (v. 4) on a daily basis—even if just for a few minutes?
 - We learned that David loves being around those who worship God in truth. What godly activities or associates do you seek out on a daily basis—even if just for a few minutes?
8. In question #4, we learned that David claims to have habitually walked in integrity (v. 1) and then in v. 11 he promised to continue to do so. In v. 3 David described his walk as being “in God’s truth”. What are some practices you currently have which expose you to God’s truth on a daily basis?

Tell us about a time when “walking in God’s truth” enabled you to “walk in integrity” in the face of evil.



Sermon Summary

In Psalm 26 David invites God Himself to examine every part of his life. He isn't claiming sinless perfection; rather, he is expressing a sincere desire to live honestly before God. He wants to be a man of integrity. David is responding to a situation where his integrity is being questioned. People have brought false accusations against him, so David asks the Lord to vindicate him (Psalm 26:1).

I. Integrity Invites God's Examination (26:1-3)

David begins with a bold prayer for vindication before his enemies. He asks God to examine him, to look at the facts, and decide the case. Integrity means wholehearted devotion. David asserts an overall consistency in his walk with God, not a sinless record but rather a godly disposition. David understands that true integrity can't be reduced merely to outward morality—what others see. *It involves an inward life lived before God's searching gaze.* David is open to inspection before God. Are you? When it comes to integrity, all of us should ask ourselves:

- What hidden attitudes, habits, or sins would we rather keep concealed?
- Do we regularly pray, "Search me, O God" (Psalm 139:23-24)?

Spiritual growth begins when we welcome God's scrutiny. The Christian life is not just about being justified before God, it is also about growing in Christlikeness and holiness. That only happens when there is an examined life.

II. Integrity Chooses Godly Influences (26:4-5)

David refuses to identify himself with those who practice deceit and rebellion. We need to be very careful about who we allow into our inner circle. We tend to become like those with whom we most closely associate (Prov. 13:20;14:7;22:24-25;23:20-21). We can't completely isolate ourselves from such people. But we can control how much access they have. Such people need to be on the periphery, not on the inside. David warns against associating with foolish, hypocritical, ungodly people. As Christians, we are called to be in the world but not of the world. God calls us to engage the culture as missionaries, not as imitators.

III. Integrity Delights in God's Presence (26:6-8)

It seems clear that David's deepest affection is not merely for God's blessings but for God Himself. From David's life we learn that integrity grows where worship flourishes. *We must never allow ministry for God to replace intimacy with God.* David's affection for God fueled his commitment to holiness and integrity. We must not mistake spiritual activity for genuine worship and devotion.

IV. Integrity Trusts God for Final Vindication (26:9-12)

David asks God to distinguish between the righteous and the wicked. He assumes that the fate of the righteous and the fate of the wicked are diametrically opposed. He makes this assumption because he knows that God is just. Without the redemption Jesus provides and God's gracious empowerment in our journey towards Christlikeness, all would be lost. David ends where he began—with confidence in God's righteous judgment. Knowing this to be true enabled him to trust **God** to vindicate his reputation, and to guarantee his future.

When we are falsely accused: Trust God. Assert your innocence, but refuse to retaliate. Continue to walk faithfully with God. Leave ultimate vindication to the Lord.

When misunderstood: Remain steadfast. Continue serving. Trust God's timing.

David reminds us that we do not have to win every argument or defend ourselves against every criticism, every accusation. David's confidence rests not in the acceptance of others, but in God's ultimate justice. He knows, if God is for us, who can be against us?

Question: "What does a life of integrity look like before God?"

Psalm 26 answers:

- Integrity welcomes God's examination.
- Integrity chooses godly influences.
- Integrity delights in God's presence.
- Integrity trusts God with the outcome.

Our Conclusion: *A person of integrity has nothing to hide, knows where to stand, loves where God dwells, and trusts God with the results.*

Final Challenge

Honestly pray David's prayer this week - "Examine me, O LORD, and test me." As the Holy Spirit shines His searchlight of truth on your life, remember that you have a standing in grace. But God does want us to grow in holiness. And you can, if you live your life before Him.

Notes

Digging Deeper in Your Daily Quiet Time

Monday— Our Need for Self-Examination

Read: Psalm 26 (focusing today on v.1–2); Psalm 139:23–24; Proverbs 10:9 and 2 Corinthians 13:5

- What does integrity mean in everyday life?
- Why is it difficult to invite God to examine us?
- What areas of life need greater consistency before God?

Tuesday— Our Need to Live in God’s Covenant Love and Truth

Read: Psalm 26 (focusing today on v. 3); Exodus 34:6–7; John 1:14 and Titus 2:11–12

- How does remembering God’s love shape obedience?
- What truths about God most strengthen your faith?
- How can we keep God’s character “before our eyes”?

Wednesday— Our Need to Choose Godly Companions

Read: Psalm 26 (focusing today on v. 4–5); Psalm 1:1; Proverbs 13:20 and 1 Corinthians 15:33

- How do companions influence spiritual growth?
- What is the difference between loving sinners and joining in sin?
- Are there influences in your life that weaken your walk with God?

Thursday— Our Need to Experience the Joy of True Worship

Read: Psalm 26 (focusing today on v. 6–8); Psalm 27:4; Psalm 84:1–4 and Hebrews 10:19–22

- What attitudes prepare us for worship?
- Why is gratitude central to worship?
- What does it mean to love God’s presence?

Friday— Our Need for Redemption and Mercy

Read: Psalm 26 (focusing today on v. 9–11); Psalm 130:3–4; Ephesians 1:7 and Titus 3:5

- Why does David ask for mercy after speaking of integrity?
- How do grace and obedience work together?
- How does Christ fulfill David’s need for redemption?

Saturday— Standing Secure in God’s Grace

Read: Psalm 26 (focusing today on v. 12); Psalm 40:2; Psalm 62:5–8 and Jude 24–25

- Who gives believers spiritual stability?
- How does assurance lead to worship?
- In what ways can you publicly praise God today?

Psalm 26



Enjoy this song, based
on Psalm 26:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5UthoKTKrNc>