

WALK IN THE WAY OF INTEGRITY

Note to the speaker:

Make practical application of Psalm 26. Indicate what will help us walk in the way of integrity and what dangers we must avoid

WHAT IT MEANS TO WALK IN THE WAY OF INTEGRITY (4 min.)

“Integrity” means moral soundness, completeness of heart devotion to Jehovah (*w09* 4/15 3; *it-1* 1209-1212)

Integrity involves a way of life that reflects unswerving devotion to righteousness

Requires right heart motivation along with proper action

It is embraced in the command to love Jehovah with our whole heart, soul, and mind (Mt 22:37)

Walking in integrity calls for constantly searching to know Jehovah’s will and then acting in harmony with that knowledge [Read Psalm 119:1-3]

Applies to all aspects of human conduct

It is a challenge in this sinful world, but millions of Jehovah’s Witnesses are meeting that challenge successfully

HOW WE CAN MAINTAIN OUR INTEGRITY (15 min.)

The 26th Psalm shows what will help us walk in integrity (*w04* 12/1 13-18)

King David of Israel was a man of integrity [Read Psalm 26:1]

He asked Jehovah to examine his motives and refine him [Read Psalm 26:2]

Regularly invite Jehovah to examine your heart

Welcome such an examination, and make any necessary changes

David walked in God’s truth [Read Psalm 26:3]

He kept God’s acts of loving-kindness in front of his eyes

In order to ‘walk in God’s truth,’ we must know Jehovah well

David hated bad associations [Read Psalm 26:4, 5]

We likewise shun men of untruth

Some men hide what they are by feigning friendship with us

To draw us away from Jehovah, apostates may hide their motive

How vital that we avoid bad associations! (1Co 15:33)

Includes those on TV or in other media

David proclaimed his devotion to Jehovah [Read Psalm 26:6]

We ‘march around God’s altar’ by exercising faith in Jesus’ sacrifice

Such faith makes our devotion to Jehovah acceptable to him

David pointed to a work that helps us [Read Psalm 26:7]

Do you likewise feel moved to share with others what you know about Jehovah?

Engaging in the preaching work helps safeguard us from conformity to the world (*w98* 6/1 6-7)

Christian meetings, assemblies, and conventions help to fortify our integrity [Read Psalm 26:8]

As you attend, make a diligent effort to take in knowledge

Grow to love Jehovah’s reminders (Ps 119:167)

Encourage others, and be encouraged by others on such occasions (Heb 10:24, 25)

WALK IN THE WAY OF INTEGRITY, AND AVOID DISASTER (8 min.)

Like David, who did not want to live and die along with sinners, we plead for Jehovah’s mercy [Read Psalm 26:9, 10]

Shameless conduct is made to appear normal and acceptable in magazines, in movies, and on many Web sites

Internet could become a means of association with evildoers

Viewing pornography can lead to loose conduct or *por-nei’a* (*w10* 4/15 21-22; *w04* 12/1 17; *g03* 7/22 6-10)

Youths especially must work to resist immoral influences

Many feel pressured to date or to form romantic attachments while they are too young to marry

Youths who walk in the way of integrity are spared the pain and defilement wrought by immoral conduct

Adults must guard their integrity

Integrity-keepers maintain strong and peaceful marriages

Walking in integrity is evidenced in honest business practices and in decisions that take Jehovah’s will into account

Meditating on the value of our integrity-keeping course will help us to cultivate a hatred for all corrupting influences (Am 5:15)

GIVE GOD GLORY BY CONTINUING TO WALK IN INTEGRITY (3 min.)

Is it not encouraging to see millions of Christians today walking in the way of integrity?

May our manner of life always show that we respect and appreciate the sovereignty of God

Never allow Satan to entice you to do things that could jeopardize your precious relationship with Jehovah

Let your life reflect the sentiments expressed at Psalm 26:11, 12 [Read]

(Not all cited texts need to be read or commented on)

No. 178-E—page 2

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TO BE COVERED IN 30 MINUTES

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