PSALM

26

XXVI

Declarative Confidence

Psalms of David · Book I

"By David."

PICTURE WORD

Washed Hands

IN ONE SENTENCE

David asks God to test him, pleads his integrity, loves God's house, and rejects the company of the wicked.

Remember it: Twenty-six: washed hands, whole heart, and a love for God's house.

MEMORY VERSE

Examine me, Yahweh, and prove me. Try my heart and my mind.

Psalm 26:2 · World English Bible

HEBREW WORD

בְּתֻמִּי

"my integrity" · verse 1

In the Psalms: seven times, in 6 psalms

בְּתֻמִּי comes from a root meaning "complete" or "whole." It describes a life that is all of one piece, the same word used for blameless Job. David is not claiming to be sinless; he is saying his heart is undivided toward the LORD.

HOW THE PSALM MOVES

1–3	David invites the LORD to examine his heart and life.
4–8	He refuses wicked company and loves the LORD's house.
9–12	He asks not to be swept away with sinners, and blesses.

MY NOTES

Listen. Hear Psalm 26 sung in the **Psalm Song** app, or free at **ispress.de/psalms/26**.

Cantillated. Sung: chanted back and forth between a leader and the people.

The Two Ways · Zion & the House of God

FILL IN THE BLANKS

David asks God to _____ him, pleads his _____, loves God's house, and rejects the _____ of the wicked.

CHECK YOURSELF

1. What does David ask the LORD to examine?

- (A) His heart and his mind
- (B) His house and his land
- (C) His army and his weapons
- (D) His friends and his family

2. Why does David wash his hands in innocence?

- (A) To prepare for battle
- (B) To eat at the king's table
- (C) To go about the LORD's altar
- (D) To bring a sacrifice of grain

3. What fills the right hand of the bloodthirsty men?

- (A) Swords
- (B) Bribes
- (C) Bread
- (D) Stones

TALK IT OVER

1. What does David refuse to do, and what does he choose to do instead?

2. Why would someone ask God to test them rather than avoid his examination?

3. Who are the people you sit with most often, and how do they shape your walk with God?

IN YOUR OWN WORDS: WHAT DOES PSALM 26 TEACH?

- ☐ I listened to the song
- ☐ I can say verse 2 by heart
- ☐ I can say what it teaches
- ☐ I know the picture word

Answers Blanks: test · integrity · company · Check yourself: 1. A (v. 2) · 2. C (v. 6) · 3. B (v. 10)