

Psalm 26:1-8

Of David.

- ¹ Vindicate me, LORD,
for I have led a blameless life;
I have trusted in the LORD
and have not faltered.
- ² Test me, LORD, and try me,
examine my heart and my mind;
- ³ for I have always been mindful of your unfailing love
and have lived in reliance on your faithfulness.
- ⁴ I do not sit with the deceitful,
nor do I associate with hypocrites.
- ⁵ I abhor the assembly of evildoers
and refuse to sit with the wicked.
- ⁶ I wash my hands in innocence,
and go about your altar, LORD,
- ⁷ proclaiming aloud your praise
and telling of all your wonderful deeds.
- ⁸ LORD, I love the house where you live,
the place where your glory dwells.

Romans 12:9-21

Love in Action

- ⁹ Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. ¹¹ Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. ¹² Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. ¹³ Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position.^[a] Do not be conceited.

¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. ¹⁸ If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. ¹⁹ Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay,"^[b] says the Lord. ²⁰ On the contrary:

"If your enemy is hungry, feed him;

if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.

In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."^[c]

²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.