

Sermon Title: Psalms: From the Heart, Part XV 2.22.2026

Themes: Living a life of faith and integrity now and enjoying God forever in Heaven. Live-streaming and sermon notes are at trinitycg.org. The bulletin is a tract.

Focus Question: Do you love gossip more than God?

Sermon Points:

1. The Question.

Psalm 15:1 O Lord, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill? David isn't asking about church attendance. He's asking about God's abiding presence. "To sojourn" means to be a temporary resident, such as a welcomed guest. "To dwell" means to remain, as in abide. This is a question about intimacy with God, not mere religious affiliation. The "tent" points to the Tabernacle (the Israelite tent sanctuary). The "holy hill" points to Mount Zion (i.e., Jerusalem)—the place of God's presence. This verse emphasizes the importance of holiness and righteousness in the life of a child of God as we look forward to dwelling in His eternal presence.

2. The Response.

Psalm 15:2 He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart; Two key attributes of those who will dwell with God forever: 1. Their walk (daily conduct). 2. Their talk (speaking truth). "Blameless" doesn't mean sinless. It means whole. No double life. You're not lying to yourself before you lie to someone else. God starts inside. A cracked foundation eventually shows in the walls. Integrity means structural strength. **Psalm 15:3 who does not slander with his tongue and does no evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his friend;** In relationships there are three prohibitions: 1. No slander. 2. No harm. 3. No gossip disguised as "sharing concerns." You don't pick up accusations and carry them forward. You don't amplify rumors. The righteous person refuses to be a microphone for malice. Think of gossip like passing around a spark in a dry forest. One careless whisper can burn down decades of trust. The person who dwells with God doesn't traffic in character assassination. **Psalm 15:4 in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but who honors those who fear the Lord; who swears to his own hurt and does not change;** Notice the moral clarity and costly integrity: 1. Moral clarity: The righteous person doesn't celebrate what God condemns. He doesn't call darkness light. He honors those who fear the Lord. He knows who to esteem. 2. Costly integrity: You keep your word even when it's expensive. In a world where commitments evaporate, a child of God remains steady. God loves His people. Daniel exemplified Psalm 15. He was a model of integrity under pressure. Daniel lived as though God's "holy hill" mattered more than Babylon's throne room. Daniel served pagan kings without moral compromise. Even his enemies couldn't find corruption in him. **Daniel 6:4.** Daniel spoke faithfully, even when it was risky. **Daniel 4:24–27.** When prayer became illegal, Daniel didn't adjust his devotion to protect himself. He remained true to the Lord. **Daniel 6:10.**

3. The Promise.

Psalm 15:5 who does not put out his money at interest and does not take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be moved. Refuse to profit from someone's vulnerability. Justice matters more than gain. Stability is the reward of integrity. Storms test ships. When pressure comes, character either anchors you or exposes you. Verses 2-5 answer the question of verse 1. Who dwells with God? Not hypocrites. Then, who? The children of God. In Heaven they will be filled with joy and love. What are they like now while they yet live on earth? 1. Honest heart. 2. Relationally healthy. 3. Morally clear. 4. Financially just. 5. Always faithful. Psalm 15 describes Jesus perfectly. He alone walked blamelessly, never slandered, and kept every promise. Because of Him, we are welcomed into God's family and God's tent. We don't dwell with God because we passed a purity test. We will dwell with God because Christ took the test on the cross and passed the grade on to us. Psalm 15 is not about being a good person. It's about transformation within your heart according to His holiness.

Reflection: Lord, grant me a pure heart that blesses others now, and a longing soul that awaits its residency with You forever.