

MWS

11 October 2026

Theme: "So I Have Looked for You in the Sanctuary"

Title: "LORD, who may dwell in Your Tabernacle?"

Text: Psalm 15

INTRODUCTION

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| 1. Concept of the sanctuary of God | Psalm 63 |
| 2. Counterpoint – focus on the worshipper | Psalm 4 |
| 3. Connection – between heaven and earth | Psalm 11 |
| 4. Today's focus – The Community of Worshippers | Psalm 15 |

GOD'S INTENTION TO DWELL AMONG A COMMUNITY OF WORSHIPPERS

1. God's intention

*And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them.
Exodus 25:8*

- a. To have a dwelling place
 - b. To also dwell among His people
 - c. This refers to a community of worshippers
2. Relevant inquiries raised up by David

LORD, who may abide in Your tabernacle? Psalm 15:1
Who may dwell in Your holy hill?

- a. Who will form this community of worshippers?
- b. How may it be built up and sustained?

3. Concerns to be addressed

- a. It is not easy to build and sustain a community
- b. Many communities become fractured and weakened over time
- c. We see this very much in our world today

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE INDIVIDUAL IN THE COMMUNITY

- 1. A strong community begins with the individual
- 2. This individual is well described in Psalm 15

*2 He who walks uprightly,
And works righteousness,
And speaks the truth in his heart;
3 He who does not backbite with his tongue,
Nor does evil to his neighbor,
Nor does he take up a reproach against his friend;
4 In whose eyes a vile person is despised,
But he honors those who fear the LORD;
He who swears to his own hurt and does not change;
5 He who does not put out his money at usury,
Nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.*

He who does these things shall never be moved.

Psalm 15:2-5

- a. His life
 - i. He walks uprightly
 - ii. He works righteousness
 - iii. His speaks the truth in his heart

- b. His tongue
 - i. He does not backbite
 - ii. He does not do evil to his neighbour
 - iii. He does not take up a reproach against his friend unnecessarily
- c. His character
 - i. He despises a vile person
 - ii. He honours those who fear the LORD
- d. His personal integrity (oath-taking)
 - i. When he swears an oath
 - ii. He does not change
- e. His handling of money
 - i. He does not take advantage of the poor (charging usury)
 - ii. He does not take a bribe against the innocent
- f. He will not be easily moved
 - i. There will be strength and steadiness
 - ii. Even during challenges

3. The individual who practices these things

- a. He will influence others for good
- b. He will make an impact on others
- c. He will become an inspiration to the whole community

4. But if the individual does not practice these things
 - a. He will do what is right in his own eyes
 - b. He will not relate well to others
 - c. He will hurt rather than help the community

INSPIRATION TO BUILD THIS COMMUNITY

1. Inspiration for ourselves
 - a. May we first be inspired to practice Psalm 15 in our lives
 - b. May we then seek to be an inspiration to our local Bethany Community
 - c. May our local Bethany community be an inspiration for our overseas brethren
2. Inspiration to keep building this community
 - a. It is possible to keep building such a community
 - b. But we must rise to the occasion
 - c. It will take much diligence and determination from us
3. In doing so, our hope is that our Bethany family will always be
 - a. God's kind of church
 - b. Where God will dwell among His people
 - c. Where the concept of the sanctuary of God will always be real