

He will instruct him in the way chosen for him.
He will spend his days in prosperity, and his descendants will inherit the land.
The LORD confides in those who fear him; he makes his covenant known to them.
My eyes are ever on the LORD, for only he will release my feet from the snare.

Psalm 88

A song. A psalm of the Sons of Korah.
For the director of music. Accompanied by stringed instruments.
Heman the Ezrahite.

LORD, the God who saves me,
day and night I cry out before you.
My prayer come before you;
turn your ear to my cry.

My soul is full of trouble,
and my life draws near the grave.
I am counted among those who go down to the pit;

I am like a man without strength,
set apart with the dead.
I am the slain who lie in the grave,
and you remember no more,
and I am cut off from your care.

You have put me in the lowest pit,
in the darkest depths.

My wrath lies heavily upon me;
you have afflicted me with all your

A prayer of David.
1 Hear, O LORD, my righteous plea;
listen to my cry.
Give ear to my prayer —
it does not rise from deceitful lips.
2 May my vindication come from you;
may your eyes see what is right.
3 Though you probe my heart and examine
me at night,
though you test me, you will find
nothing;
I have resolved that my mouth will not
sins.

BOOK OF PSALMS

DOES
8 Keep me as the apple of your eye;
hide me in the shadow of your wings
from the wicked who assail me,
from my mortal enemies who surround
me.

10 They close up their callous hearts,
and their mouths speak with arrogance.
11 They have tracked me down, they now
surround me,
with eyes alert, to throw me to the
ground.

12 They are like a lion hungry for prey,
like a great lion crouching in cover.
13 Rise up, O LORD, confront them, bring
them down.

burning coals blazed out of it.
9 He parted the heavens and came down;
dark clouds were under his feet.
10 He mounted the cherubim and flew;
he soared on the wings of the wind.
11 He made darkness his covering, his
canopy around him —
the dark rain clouds of the sky.
12 Out of the brightness of his presence
clouds advanced,
with hailstones and bolts of lightning.
13 The LORD thundered from heaven;
the voice of the Most High resounded.
14 He shot his arrows and scattered the

defence.
my God is my rock, in whom I take
refuge.
He is my shield and the horn of my
salvation, my stronghold.
3 I call to the LORD, who is worthy of
praise,
and I am saved from my enemies.
4 The cords of death entangled me;
the torrents of destruction overwhelmed
me.
5 The cords of the grave coiled about
me.

and casts no slur on his fellowman.
4 who despises a vile man
but honors those who fear the LORD,
who keeps his oath
even when it hurts,
5 who lends his money without usury
and does not accept a bribe against the
innocent.

He who does these things
will never be shaken.

Psalm 16

A *miktam*^b of David.

me safe, O God,
you I take refuge.
the LORD, "You are my Lord;
from you I have no good thing."
the saints who are in the land,
are the glorious ones in whom is
all my delight.^c

sorrows of those will increase
who run after other gods.
I will not pour out their libations of blood
or take up their names on my lips.

5 LORD, you have assigned me my portion
and my cup;
you have made my lot secure.
6 The boundary lines have fallen for me in
pleasant places;
surely I have a delightful inheritance.

7 I will praise the LORD, who counsels me;
even at night my heart instructs me.
8 I have set the LORD always before me;
because he is at my right hand,
I will not be shaken.

3 truths about lasting happiness:

Lasting happiness can **never** be found
in a life that **LEAVES GOD OUT**

Lasting happiness can **only** be found
in a life that **INCLUDES GOD**

Only those who **LIVE FOR GOD**
in this life will live **happily ever after**

Psalms 15 (NIV)

¹ Lord, who may dwell in your sacred tent?
Who may live on your holy mountain? ² The
one whose walk is blameless, who does
what is righteous, who speaks the truth
from their heart; ³ whose tongue utters no
slander, who does no wrong to a neighbor,
and casts no slur on others;

Psalms 15 (NIV)

⁴ who despises a vile person but honors those who fear the Lord; who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and does not change their mind; ⁵ who lends money to the poor without interest; who does not accept a bribe against the innocent. Whoever does these things will never be shaken.

The closer we are to God, the more
our lives begin to reflect His heart.

CLOSE TO YOU

BOOK OF PSALMS

What does someone who is
close to God actually look like?

Psalms 15:1 (NIV)

¹ Lord, who may **dwell** in your sacred tent?
Who may live on your holy mountain?

‘Dwell’ means to settle down
and permanently make your home
in God’s intimate presence.

The closer we are to God, the more
our lives begin to reflect His heart.

1 John 1:6 (NIV)

⁶ If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth.

Romans 3:23 (NIV)

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the
glory of God,

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)

⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.

What does someone who is
close to God actually look like?

3 traits of a person who is close to God:

PURSUES RIGHTEOUSNESS

Psalms 15:2 (NIV)

² The one whose walk is blameless, who does what is righteous...

תָּמִים (tamim) blameless = complete; whole

One who is close to God pursues
righteousness not for performance or
public approval, but simply because
of a close relationship with God.



Our obedience to God isn't measured
by what we do when everyone is watching.

It's revealed by what we choose
when no one is around.

Acts 13:22 (NKJV)

²² And when He had removed him, He raised up for them David as king, to whom also He gave testimony and said, 'I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart, who will do all My will.'

Psalm 27:4 (NIV)

⁴ One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.

Psalms 15:4 (NIV)

4 who despises a vile person but honors those who fear the Lord...

Proverbs 8:13 (NIV)

¹³ To fear the Lord is to hate evil...

2 Timothy 2:22 (NIV)

²² Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

Psalm 15:4 (NIV)

4 who despises a vile person but honors those who fear the Lord...

Do you long to be close to Him?

Luke 11:39 (NLT)

³⁹ Then the Lord said to him, “You Pharisees are so careful to clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside you are filthy—full of greed and wickedness!



The closer we are to God, the more
our lives begin to reflect His heart.

- Do you long to be close to Him?

- Do you long to be close to Him?
- Is there an area in your life where you've slowly started making compromises?

- Do you long to be close to Him?
- Is there an area in your life where you've slowly started making compromises?
- What is one decision this week that could help you take one step closer to God?

Psalms 51:10 (NLT)

¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Renew a loyal spirit within me.

3 traits of a person who is close to God:

PURSUES RIGHTEOUSNESS

SPEAKS WORDS OF LIFE

BOOK OF **PSALMS**

Psalm 15:2-3 (NIV)

² ...who speaks the truth from their heart;

³ whose tongue utters no slander, who does no wrong to a neighbor, and casts no slur on others;

Luke 6:45 (NIV)

⁴⁵ ...For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

Psalms 15:4 (NIV)

⁴ ...who keeps an oath even when it hurts,
and does not change their mind;

Psalms 15:3 (NIV)

³ whose tongue utters no **slander**, who does no wrong to a neighbor, and casts no **slur** on others;



Source: Michael Marais on Unsplash

Once you lower someone into the grave,
you can't bring them back anymore.

Proverbs 18:21 (NIV)

²¹ The tongue has the power of life and death...

I think more damage has been done to the church and its work by gossip, criticism, and slander than by any other single sin. So I say, don't do it. Bite your tongue before you criticise another Christian.

JAMES MONTGOMERY BOICE

Leviticus 19:16 (NIV)

¹⁶ “Do not go about spreading slander among your people. “Do not do anything that endangers your neighbor’s life. I am the Lord.

- Is it true?

- Is it true?
- Is it kind?

- Is it true?
- Is it kind?
- Is it helpful?

- Is it true?
- Is it kind?
- Is it helpful?
- Is it necessary?

Will you learn to speak truth to the person
who has hurt you, and seek reconciliation?

Will you seek forgiveness from that person?

3 traits of a person who is close to God:

PURSUES RIGHTEOUSNESS

SPEAKS WORDS OF LIFE

BOOK OF **PSALMS**

**LOVES OTHERS
GENEROUSLY**

Hebrews 13:16 (NIV)

¹⁶ And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Psalms 15:5 (NIV)

⁵ who lends money to the poor without interest; who does not accept a bribe against the innocent...

Exodus 22:25 (NIV)

²⁵ “If you lend money to one of my people among you who is needy, do not treat it like a business deal; charge no interest.

Leviticus 25:35 (NIV)

³⁵ “If any of your fellow Israelites become poor and are unable to support themselves among you, help them as you would a foreigner and stranger, so they can continue to live among you.

Psalms 15:5 (NIV)

⁵ ...who does not accept a bribe against the innocent...

Deuteronomy 16:19 (NLT)

¹⁹ You must never twist justice or show partiality. Never accept a bribe, for bribes blind the eyes of the wise and corrupt the decisions of the godly.

Deuteronomy 27:19 (NIV)

¹⁹ “Cursed is anyone who withholds justice from the foreigner, the fatherless or the widow.”...

Psalms 146:9 (NKJV)

⁹ The Lord watches over the strangers; He
relieves the fatherless and widow; But the
way of the wicked He turns upside down.

How can I love others generously?



Source: medicine.nus.edu.sg



Source: saltandlight.sg

It is the Lord who actually changed and touched my heart. To see what He has done for the residents that allowed me to carry on the ministry that He has called me to.

PASTOR JIMI TAN

Hebrews 3:13 (NIV)

¹³ But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called “Today,” so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness.

3 traits of a person who is close to God:

PURSUES RIGHTEOUSNESS

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LOVES OTHERS GENEROUSLY

We pursue righteousness because
we have already been loved.

We speak words of life because
His words first brought life to us.

We love generously because
He first loved us generously.

Psalms 15:5 (NIV)

⁵ ...Whoever does these things will
never be shaken.

John 16:33 (NIV)

³³ ...In this world you will have trouble...

John 16:33 (NIV)

³³ “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have **peace**. In this world you will have trouble. But **take heart!** I have overcome the world.”

Genesis 2:7 (NIV)

⁷ Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

Romans 6:23 (NIV)

²³ For the wages of sin is death...

John 3:16-17 (NIV)

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Acts 13:22 (NIV)

²² After removing Saul, he made David their king. God testified concerning him: 'I have found David son of Jesse, **a man after my own heart**; he will do everything I want him to do.'

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 Wrath lies heavily upon me;
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defender.
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 He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.
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 I will not fall.