

Summer in the Psalms

Lesson Seven • Psalm 26

Overcoming Mistreatment

Warning! When It Comes to Mistreatment:

Don't become BITTER and don't BACKSLIDE!

*Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity. I have also trusted in the LORD;
I shall not slip. Psalm 26:1*

How to Do Right When You've Been Done Wrong:

1. Open Your HEART Before the Lord!

Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; try my mind and my heart. Psalm 26:2

When You've Been Done Wrong, Ask God to:

- SEARCH your heart. *Ps. 139:23-24*
- PURIFY your heart. *James 1:2-4*

2. Stay Focused On God's Steadfast LOVE!

For Your lovingkindness is before my eyes, and I have walked in Your truth. Psalm 26:3

A Subtle Yet Common Temptation in the Midst of Mistreatment:

We DOUBT God's love for us.

3. Refuse the Temptation to GET EVEN!

*I have not sat with idolatrous mortals, nor will I go in with hypocrites.
I have hated the congregation of evildoers, and will not sit with the wicked. Psalm 26:4-5*

In the Midst of Mistreatment:

- Listen to the counsel of the GODLY, not the ungodly. *Psalm 1*
- Repay wrong with LOVE, not revenge. *Rom. 12:19-20; 13:10*

4. Maintain Your RELATIONSHIP with God!

*I will wash my hands in innocence; so I will go about Your altar, O LORD, that I may proclaim
with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all Your wondrous works. Psalm 26:6-7*

5. Be Faithful in Corporate WORSHIP!

*LORD, I have loved the habitation of Your house, and the place where Your glory dwells.
Psalm 26:8*

6. Keep Walking in Your INTEGRITY!

*Do not gather my soul together with sinners, nor my life with bloodthirsty men,
in whose hands is a sinister scheme, and whose right hand is full of bribes. But as for me,
I will walk in my integrity. Redeem me and be merciful to me. Psalm 26:9-11*

The Result of Doing Right When You've Been Done Wrong:

You will STAND on level ground instead of SLIDING on slippery terrain.

My foot stands in an even place; in the congregations I will bless the Lord. Psalm 26:12