Devotion (Psalm 26)

I. **Introduction**

The four characteristics of the **devotion** of a man after God's heart

II. 1. Integrity (vss. 1-3)

A plea to God for justice for something he is innocent of (v. 1)

An invitation to examine his **integrity** (v. 1) the consequences of compromise

Three ways to walk in **integrity**:

unwavering trust in God (v. 1) a willingness to be examined (v. 2) remembering God's covenant faithfulness (v. 3)

III. 2. Separation (vss. 4-5)

God has called His people to be a holy (separate) people (Deut 14:2, Rom 12:2, 2 Cor 6:14-17, Psalm 1, Jn 17:16, 1 Co 15:33, Jn 3:20-21)

Who do you turn to when you are in need of counsel? Who would you prefer to spend your free time with?

If you love the world the love of the Father is not in you (1 Jn 2:15)

IV. **3.** Union (vss. 6-8)

David relishes in corporate praise (Ps 27:4, 6, 42:4, 68:24-26)

Are you *glad* to be in the house of the Lord? If not, examine yourself (1Jn 3:14, Jn 13:25)

The church is God's idea – it is His chosen means to glorify His name (1 Tim 3:15, Eph 3:20, Heb 10:23-25, 1 Co 12)

The church "is then worthy of our love, our loyalty, our support, our defense, our tears, our prayers, our toils and our labors. (B. Borgman)

Examine your habits and ask yourself, do I love the church?

V. **4. Stability (vss. 9-12)**

Your stability in the church *confirms* or *betrays* the stability of your Christian walk. Because the church is built upon a rock, you ought to be most stable in her (Mt 16:16-18).

VI. **Applications for today**

Examine yourself – with who to you prefer to sit, stand, and walk? Partake of the Lord's Table as a confirmation of your devotion Share more testimonies with God's people Sing more praises with God's people