

Grace Evangelical Free Church
Issues & Answers: A Clear Conscience

“In this hope, I strive always to maintain a clear conscience before God and man” – Acts 24:16

Paul’s words are plain: the believer’s daily aim is an unclouded conscience, vertically with God and horizontally with people.

What a Clear Conscience Looks Like:

- Free from unconfessed sin (**Psalm 32:1–2**)
- Confident of standing forgiven through Christ’s blood (**Hebrews 9:14**)
- Unburdened by hidden motives or secret hypocrisy (**Proverbs 10:9**)
- Ready to face scrutiny from God’s Word or human eyes without shame (**1 Peter 3:16**)

Daily Steps to Guard the Heart:

- Start the day in Scripture and prayerful surrender (**Psalm 119:9, 11**)
- Invite the Spirit to search and convict (**John 16:8**)
- Confess sin immediately—don’t let it linger (**1 John 1:9**)
- Obey promptly when the Word or Spirit directs (**James 1:22**)
- Seek reconciliation quickly if you wrong someone (**Matthew 5:23–24**)
- Work and serve with transparent integrity (**Colossians 3:23**; **2 Corinthians 8:21**)
- Guard your tongue—speak grace, not decay (**Ephesians 4:29**)
- Keep thought-life pure and praiseworthy (**Philippians 4:8**)
- Practice generosity and justice so no one can accuse you of self-interest (**Acts 24:17**; **Micah 6:8**)
- End each day with honest self-examination (**Psalm 139:23–24**; **Lamentations 3:40**)

Walking Upright Before God:

- Remember God sees the heart (**1 Samuel 16:7**)
 - Keep short accounts—daily confession prevents callouses
 - Embrace discipline; it refines conscience (**Hebrews 12:5–11**)
 - Hold fast to the gospel when Satan accuses (**Revelation 12:10–11**)
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Relating Honorably to People:

- Pay debts and fulfill promises (**Romans 13:7–8**)
 - Speak truthfully, even when costly (**Ephesians 4:25**)
 - Show respect to authorities and employers (**1 Peter 2:13–18**)
 - Give no occasion for legitimate blame (**1 Thessalonians 5:22**)
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Checking In: A Daily Heart Inventory:

- I am up to date in my repentance
 - I have settled any relational breaches
 - I have nothing to hide if today's actions were made public
 - I sense the Spirit's peace, not unresolved conviction
 - I am ready for Christ's return without shame (**1 John 2:28**)
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Encouragement from Other Scriptures:

- **Acts 23:1**—Paul's lifelong pattern of a good conscience.
 - **2 Timothy 1:3**—serving God “with a clear conscience” is possible over decades.
 - **Hebrews 13:18**—leaders need prayer to maintain one.
 - **Titus 1:15**—purity of heart and mind keeps conscience undefiled.
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Conclusion: A Life that Shines

When the heart is clean, the witness is bright. Consistently applying God's Word, confessing swiftly, and treating people rightly preserves the inner assurance Paul prized. A clear conscience becomes both a shield against accusation and a platform for bold, joyful service every single day.

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