

WARM-UP

- What was your favorite subject in school? What did you like about it?
- Recall a time when you learned something new. How did you get better at it?
- Think of someone close to you. How did you become close to this person? Why do you trust him or her?

WORD *You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.*

PSALM 119:4

(Read also **PSALM 119:1-3, 5-8.**)

It is an amazing fact that the Bible, God's written word, has stood the test of time and is still relevant today. Every believer looks to God's word for guidance and wisdom, as the authority of faith and conduct. Yet, many seem to be content with getting a few verses on a Sunday rather than making time to study and apply the richness of God's word every day. God desires for us to walk out what we believe. This means loving and obeying His word daily—to know, learn, and study the word. There are tremendous blessings for knowing and living according to God's word. Today, we will look at what we can do as we grow in our knowledge of His word.

1 | Walk in the law of the Lord.

Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD! **PSALM 119:1**

Sometimes we view God's word merely as a list of things to do or as a record of history. But God's word is not just for head knowledge. We are to walk in it. Learning God's word involves actively obeying what it says. The more we walk in God's word and follow Him, the more we will experience its truth in our lives. How do you think we can walk in God's word every day?

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2 | Keep the Lord's testimonies.

²Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart, ³who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways!

PSALM 119:2-3

God's word is one of the ways He communicates His character and nature to His people. Through the stories written in the Bible, we see God's love and faithfulness. As we continue to read and hear of His works, we see how He is our strength in weakness, our comfort in distress, and faithful to His character and promises. Together, we guard the stories of God that we have learned from the Bible, heard from other believers, and experienced in our own lives. What is your story about God's goodness to you and your family? Why is it important to share this with others?

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3 | Seek the Lord with our whole heart.

²*Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart,* ³*who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways!*

PSALM 119:2-3

Going through life with our own limited ability invites pride and self-righteousness. Thankfully, God graciously humbles us so that we may have a desire to know Him and learn His word. He also made a way for us to know and experience Him—through His Son, Jesus, who is the living Word. God and His word are to be everything in our lives, and we are to seek Him with our whole hearts. What do you think seeking something with your whole heart looks like? Why do you think God wants His people to seek Him *with their whole heart* and not just a part of their heart? How can we do this in community?

As the Psalmist meditated on God's word, he concluded this part of the song with resolve: *I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me!* (Psalm 119:8). When we see the importance of learning God's word and, by His grace, commit to growing in our relationship with Him, He will give us the same resolve to keep His statutes and walk in His ways.

APPLICATION

- How has God's word changed your life? How important is it to you and how have you learned to value it?
- Commit Psalm 119:1 to memory: *Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD!* Repeat it several times and make it your prayer this week.
- How can you grow in your love for God's word? Who can help you with this and what do you think you can do to study, learn from, and grow in God's word together?

PRAYER

- Thank God that His word helps us understand who He is and how we may follow Him.
- Ask God for a fresh perspective and understanding of His word every day. Pray that familiarity or distractions would not hinder you from loving God's word.
- Pray that as you learn God's word, you would share it with others. Ask God for the boldness, compassion, and grace to proclaim the gospel to those around you.