



Mid-week Bible Study - week commencing 3/05/21

Growing in God's living Word

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Our service on Sunday focused on the importance of being rooted in God's Word. Being rooted in something is much more than just knowing something. It's possible to know large parts of the Bible, but not be rooted in it.

To be rooted in something is to draw up nutrients and life giving energy to sustain your life. A plant detached from its roots will die.

Psalms 119 (the longest chapter in the Bible) is a celebration of God's word. This psalm is an acrostic poem of twenty-two stanzas, following the letters of the Hebrew alphabet; within a stanza, each verse begins with the same Hebrew letter. Why not make yourself a coffee and sit down for a while and enjoy the whole psalm.

I have gone through the psalm and have cherry picked a verse from each of the 22 sections, I tried to limit myself to one verse per section, but sometimes I chose two! My highlights are below...



Read them around the group then discuss **which ones resonate the most with you?**

I was particularly blessed by verse 32, the concept that as we draw God's words into ourselves our hearts expand and we become bigger hearted people!

1 Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the Law of the LORD.

9 How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to Your word.

11 I have hidden Your word in my heart that I might not sin against You.

18 Open my eyes that I may see wondrous things from Your law.

29 Remove me from the path of deceit and graciously grant me Your law.

32 I run in the path of Your commandments, for You will enlarge my heart.

37 Turn my eyes away from worthless things; revive me with Your word.

45 And I will walk in freedom, for I have sought Your precepts.

47 I delight in Your commandments because I love them.

50 This is my comfort in affliction, that Your promise has given me life.

61 Though the ropes of the wicked bind me, I do not forget Your law.

67 Before I was afflicted, I went astray; but now I keep Your word.

71 It was good for me to be afflicted, that I might learn Your statutes.

72 The law from Your mouth is more precious to me than thousands of pieces of gold and silver.

- 77 May Your compassion come to me, that I may live, for Your law is my delight.
- 88 Revive me according to Your loving devotion, that I may obey the testimony of Your mouth.
- 96 I have seen a limit to all perfection, but Your commandment is without limit.
- 98 Your commandments make me wiser than my enemies, for they are always with me.
- 103 How sweet are Your words to my taste - sweeter than honey in my mouth!
- 105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
- 114 You are my hiding place and my shield; I put my hope in Your word.
- 126 It is time for the LORD to act, for they have broken Your law.
- 130 The entrance of Your words gives light; it informs the simple.
- 143 Trouble and distress have found me, but Your commandments are my delight.
- 147 I rise before dawn and cry for help; in Your word I have put my hope.
- 154 Defend my cause and redeem me; revive me according to Your word.
- 162 I rejoice in Your promise like one who finds great spoil.
- 163 I hate and abhor falsehood, but Your law I love.
- 176 I have strayed like a lost sheep; seek Your servant, for I have not forgotten Your commandments.

God’s word is not only to be absorbed, but to be acted on and spoken out. Speaking God's Word with your mouth is essential. As we speak God's Word we release its power to change situations in our lives, and transform the atmosphere around us.

Have you ever experienced a situation changing as you have actively spoken out God’s word?

One of Jesus’s names is The Word. I like the story of the child who when asked why Jesus is called ‘The Word’ said that “Jesus is called The Word because he is all that God wanted to say to us!”

