

Ingredient 4, Disciplines of the Word - Psalm 119:9-16 **Notes, Family Worship, Bible Reading**

Notes from the Sermon

The 119th Psalm has 176 verses. It is written in poetic form as an acrostic - the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet each giving that Hebrew letter its turn to introduce 8 successive verses on the subject of God's word. It features prayers, reflections and even exclamations that tout the redemptive value of reading, meditating and even singing God's word. It is a remarkable tribute to the glory of God and His word. This whole psalm refers to scripture over and over - almost every verse has a reference to scripture.

The Psalm is written in a tone that conveys a tone of awe, of wonder, of worship to One who is worthy. It's a psalm of gratitude for what God has done. The psalmist is thankful that there are ways to act, think and feel that are above our natural human instinct. In the psalm the writer points us to a God whose precepts, statutes, testimonies are meant for our good and His glory. We can echo the psalmist in proclaiming that God has revealed Himself to us through the words of scripture.

This psalm should encourage us wherever we are in our walk with Jesus. If you are a seeker, or a skeptic, the bible will describe to you God's plan of salvation, his unchanging ways, his sovereignty over all of creation. It tells you about the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus. How He lived while He was on earth. How He loved people.

If you are in a dry season the psalm reminds you of where to turn for discipline yourself through the means of grace found in God's revealed word. We are all prone to get out of the habit of studying God's word. We can get our spiritual life back in order by getting back to this discipline of grace.

If you are in a season of strength, steady in your devotional life, this psalm encourages you to stay with it and reminds you that it's not just for intake. We are called to proclaim the word with our voices to encourage others and proclaim God's plan of salvation.

Here are a list of resources to help you in your bible study. It might be helpful to discuss these in your community groups and see what other resources our friends utilize:

⇒ A good study bible : Only the words of scripture are inspired. But a bible with commentary will help us grow in the knowledge of the word. It can inform us of the author's original audience, the culture and people that the author was writing to. The commentary often ties in the passage in light of the big story of scripture. Study bibles also come with footnotes that reference other relevant passages to the passage in the text. We suggest the *ESV Study Bible*.

⇒ Audio Bible: Some of us struggle with the written word. A recording of the Bible might be a good option to use as you commute or even as an early morning devotion time.

⇒ Daily Devotional: Sometimes it's helpful to have a daily reading plan. Many devotions include daily scripture reading and include a commentary that provides an application of that scripture. There are many options for devotions. Just make sure that it comes from a source that is orthodox in their statement of faith. If you need help with discernment, ask one of the Elders about the source.

⇒ www.blueletterbible.org - Online tool that provides multiple research tools for the whole bible. It includes multiple translations (ESV, NIV, KJ, etc) for quick comparisons. It has word search to see how a particular word was translated from Greek or Hebrew. There are also several daily devotionals available on this site.

⇒ www.desiringgod.org - John Piper's ministry page. It includes mp3 audio files of every sermon preached at John's church for the last 40+ years. It also has short blogs that will encourage application of scripture.

⇒ Tuesday Morning Men's Bible study: 6:45 a.m. every Tuesday at the church office. We

simply read through a chapter of scripture each week and discuss application. There are attendees at all levels of their walk. New believers to seasoned churchgoers (guys with grey hair).

⇒Community Bible Study - This is a more intensive study option. It requires reading and homework between weekly meetings. This is a gathering of people from different churches in the area. There are multiple times, days of the week and locations to meet. There are options for coed, women only, men only, in-person or online. There are a group of Genesis women who currently attend a Wednesday morning class in Ballwin. For more details, visit <https://us.communitybiblestudy.org/find-a-class/>

⇒Dallas Theological Seminary: www.dts.edu/free-online-courses - For seminary level classes, Dallas Theological Seminary offers free classes with video recordings, study questions and short quizzes of selective classes. The recordings are actual lectures given by the seminary professors to their class. Many of the classes are studies of a specific book of the bible. This can be helpful information if you are teaching a class or writing a sermon.

Bible Reading for the Week

Daily Bible Readings

Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
2 Corinthians 11	2 Corinthians 12	2 Corinthians 13	Song of Solomon 1	Song of Solomon 2	Song of Solomon 3	Song of Solomon 4

Reading from this past week: Psalm 119:9-16

Reading in preparation for this coming Sunday: Matthew 6:1-18

Family Worship

Song - *Speak O Lord*

<https://youtu.be/ubRIJj8xkds?si=aT1WW6xhq9doMMIJ>

Gospel Project

Unit: Peter's Ministry

Story: We are to tell others about Jesus

Big Picture Question: Why does God command Christians to tell others about Jesus?

Answer: We tell others about Jesus so they will hear and believe the good news.

Scripture: Romans 10

New City Catechism

Question 9: What does God require in the First, Second, and Third Commandments?

Answer: First, that we know God as the only true God. Second, that we avoid all idolatry. Third, that we treat God's name with fear and reverence.

Verse: Deuteronomy 6:13-14

Scripture

Psalm 119:9-16

- What are the words and images used to describe God's Word in this text? How do they add meaning to what we have in the Bible?
- Why is the use of the Bible so important in our journey of discipleship?
- What are some ways we can read, study, learn, and apply the Bible?
- What is one concrete step you can take to grow in God's Word?

Prayer

*Pray that we would make disciples who love God's Word deeply, read it regularly, and apply it consistently.

*Spend time lifting your requests to God with thanksgiving.