

Psalm 119:1-16

Open It:

1. What was one of your favorite gifts you have ever received?

God's Word is a gift to us. God chose to reveal Himself and His instructions in written form, so we would know how to obey and follow Him. Psalm 119 is all about the great gift of God's Word.

Psalm 119 is the longest chapter in the Bible. It was written in the format of an acrostic poem. Acrostic poems were often used as tools to help with memorization. There are 22 stanzas, each consisting of 8 verses. Each stanza begins with a different letter of the 22 letter Hebrews alphabet. Each line in the stanza begins with that letter.

Explore It:

Read Psalm 119:1-8 *Aleph*

2. According to these verses, what is the blessed life? How do we pursue the blessed life? This is very similar to what Psalm 1 says. *Read Psalm 1.*
3. What words are used to describe the Word of God in these verses?

There are 8 different descriptions of the Word of God used in Psalm 119. As we begin our study, take a few moments to review the following list and then re-read verses 1-8 again to see how these words are used in the first stanza.

Descriptions	Meaning
Law	Generally, refers to the first 5 books of the Old Testament
Testimonies	God's standard of conduct according to the 10 commandments
Way (or Ways)	The pattern of life required by God's law
Precepts	A Commandment or requirement
Statutes	Enacted laws
Commandments	Orders; God's decrees
Judgments (or Rules)	A binding law; judicial decision
Word (or Words, Promise, Promises)	A general term of God's revelation

4. What is the psalmist's attitude toward God's Word in these verses?

5. What does the psalmist desire from God? What is his prayer? His requests? What commitments, promises, or resolutions does the psalmist make?

Read Psalm 119:9-16 *Beth*

6. How does one stay on the path of purity? Is the path of purity just for the young person?

7. What does living according to the Word entail?

8. How does the Word of God keep us from straying into sin?

9. What about God's Word do you want to praise Him for?

10. What is the psalmist's attitude toward God's Word in these verses?

11. What does the psalmist desire from God? What is his prayer? His requests? What commitments, promises, or resolutions does the psalmist make?

Apply It:

12. Do you want to live a blessed life? How will you follow the psalmist's example?

13. What verse will you take to heart, memorize, and meditate on this week?

14. What attitude/practice of the psalmist do you need to adopt in your daily life? Will you?

Homework:

Read Psalm 119 (all 176) verses each day for 5 days this coming week. As you read each day, note verses that speak to you.

Your relationship with God will never be any greater than your relationship with His Word. You cannot claim to know God if you don't know God's Word. You can't claim to love God if you don't love God's Word. You can't claim to obey God if you don't obey God's Word. Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth