

OUTLINE • 5.2

VIII. The longest chapter in the Bible is Psalm 119, and every verse is about the importance of the Word of God.

Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

PSALM 119:9

- A. I knew there was a million times more to the Christian life than I had ever seen or heard, but I didn't know how to get from where I was to where I thought I should be.
- B. One night, I heard the Lord say to me, "If you put My Word in your heart, it will teach you everything you need to know."
- C. I began to pour myself into the Bible and renew my mind by studying the Word.

I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation.

PSALM 119:99

- D. The Word of God will give us understanding.
 - E. If we meditate on the Word day and night, it will make our way prosperous—then we will have good success (Josh. 1:8).
 - F. Although we as Christians tend to value a lot of unimportant things above the Word, God still loves us.
 - G. But if we want to live victorious lives and if we want understanding, we have to meditate on the Word.
- IX. God directs your steps, but He doesn't show you the end of the path from the very beginning (Ps. 119:105), because He loves you.
- A. When God Almighty takes the time to talk to you and tell you to do something, why would you try to reason it all out in order to decide whether you're going to do it or not?
 - B. If that's the way you think, you aren't absolutely convinced that God is working for your best interest.
 - C. I would rather step out in what I think God is telling me to do and be wrong than not do what He is telling me to because I want to play it safe.
 - D. God knows what He is doing and the challenges you will face.
 - E. I don't want any of the miracles that God has put on the inside of me still there when I leave this world; I want to get them all out—I want to go for it!

- F. As you read God's Word, He will tell you something and then you act on it.
 - G. After you step into what God has said, you will be able to see the next step, and the next step, and so on.
- X. Seeds don't immediately sprout into fruit-bearing plants (Mark 4:26-29).
- A. It's a process: first the blade, then the ear of corn buds, and later the full fruit of corn appears.
 - B. The will of God comes in the same way: step by step.
 - C. Understanding this principle will really help you.
 - D. There is a growth process involved in finding, following, and fulfilling God's will for your life.
 - E. After you have been following God's leading for a while, maybe you will begin to see a bigger picture—but you won't get it all at once.
- XI. The strength of a person lies in his or her focus (Phil. 3:13-14).
- A. Paul said "*this one thing I do*" (emphasis mine), and that's the reason he turned the world "right-side up."
 - B. You have to be focused if you want to really accomplish something.
 - C. The way to kill a person's vision is to give them two visions.
 - D. Walking in the ways of the world hinders spiritual understanding; therefore, society is not conducive to knowing God.
 - E. Sadly, a lot of Christians are plugged into the world, and their hearts are divided, their understanding is darkened, and they are alienated from the life of God.
 - F. *Trying to build a relationship with God on scraps of discarded time is not going to bring you to the center of His will.*
 - G. You have to make fellowship with God and reading His Word a priority.
- XII. If you have made some mistakes or have been discouraged or hurt, the Word of God will convert your soul (Ps. 19:7-8)—it will restore your joy and your faith.
- A. The soul is the mental and emotional part of you that can experience turmoil—but your born-again spirit is perfect, and the Word will remind you of your true identity.
 - B. God's Word will make you wise—it will enlighten your eyes.
 - C. This passage isn't talking about your physical eyes; it's talking about the ability to see with your heart: to see by faith and perceive spiritual things that your physical eyes can't see.

D. The Word of God will open your heart to know things that you can't know by your five senses.

XIII. The Word is God is the answer for *any* and *every* problem you might have.

A. The Bible contains God's wisdom for man and everything you need for life and godliness.

B. I believe that the *King James* translation is the best version available, but if you can't handle the "thees" and "thous," then get a translation you enjoy reading.

C. Getting into the Word and learning God's way of thinking is the path to finding His will for your life.

D. Finding God's will for your life will give you a clear purpose and keep you from getting sidetracked by the challenges you face.

E. Knowing that you are doing what God created you to do will give you strength to weather the storms of life.

XIV. God has never made a piece of junk—He has never made a failure.

A. Every person born into this world was created by God for a special purpose.

B. Being in the center of God's will brings a sense of fulfillment.

C. The relationship you form with God will spill over into your life and bless the people around you.

D. The best part is that God's will isn't hard to find—He wants you to know it!

E. Once you make the commitment to find God's will, you will see Him begin to move in your life, and awesome things will start to happen.

DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS • 5.2

23. Read Psalm 119:9. How do you get from where you are to where you should be?

24. Discussion question: Why does the Word of God need to be in your heart?

25. Read Joshua 1:8. If you want to live a victorious life and if you want understanding, you have to _____ on the Word.

26. Read Psalm 119:105. God directs your steps, but why doesn't He show you the end of the path from the very beginning?

27. If God tells you to do something and you try to reason it all out in order to decide whether you're going to do it or not, what aren't you absolutely convinced of?

- A. That you won't have another chance
- B. What you will do instead of what God has said
- C. That God is working for your best interest
- D. All of the above
- E. None of the above

28. True or false: After you step into what God has said, you will be able to see the next step, and the next step, and so on.

29. Read Mark 4:26-29. Understanding what principle will really help you?

30. What is involved in finding, following, and fulfilling God's will for your life?
- A. Making friends
 - B. Having enough money saved up
 - C. Getting man's approval
 - D. Plenty of sunlight
 - E. A growth process

31. Read Philippians 3:13-14. What do you have to be if you want to really accomplish something?

32. The way to kill a person's vision is to give them _____ visions.

33. Discussion question: What do you think it means to be "plugged into the world"?

34. What won't bring you to the center of God's will?

35. You have to make fellowship with God _____ reading His Word a priority.

36. Read Psalm 19:7-8. What will convert your soul—restore your joy and your faith?
- A. Your neighbor
 - B. The Word of God
 - C. The best new sitcom
 - D. All of the above
 - E. None of the above

37. Discussion question: Why do you need to see with your heart: to see by faith and perceive spiritual things?

38. What contains God's wisdom for man and everything you need for life and godliness?

- A. The internet
- B. Astrology
- C. The Bible
- D. A financial consultant
- E. Children

39. True or false: Knowing that you are doing what God created you to do will give you strength to weather the storms of life.

40. What brings a sense of fulfillment?

41. The relationship who forms with God will spill over into their life and bless the people around them?

42. True or false: The best part is that God's will is hard to find.

43. Discussion question: Why is a commitment to finding God's will needed before you see Him begin to move in your life?

SCRIPTURES • 5.2

PSALM 119:9

Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

PSALM 119:99

I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation.

JOSHUA 1:8

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

PSALM 119:105

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

MARK 4:26-29

And he said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; [27] And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how. [28] For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear. [29] But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come.

PHILIPPIANS 3:13-14

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, [14] I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

PSALM 19:7-8

The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. [8] The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.