

Pursuing Balance

Living in the Beauty of God's Word

Psalm 19:7-14

Sermon Notes: Sunday, September 23

INTRODUCTION

THE BEAUTY AND IMPACT OF GOD'S WORD 19:7-9

- 1. God's Word is complete – And brings life to our souls**
“The Law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul”

- 2. God's Word is reliable – Making us wise and discerning**
“The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple”

- 3. God's Word always fits – Bringing Joy to our hearts**
“The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart”

4. God's Word is always pure – Giving insights for life

"The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes"

5. God's Word is cleansing – It will never change

"The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever"

6. God's Word is trustworthy – Reflecting God's righteous character

"The rules of God are true, and righteous altogether"

THE GREAT VALUE OF GOD'S WORD 19:10-11

1. God's Word is more precious than gold

2. God's Word brings pleasure and satisfaction

3. God's Word reveals His Path for life

ALIGNING MY LIFE TO GOD'S WORD 19:12-14

- 1. There are times when I am not even aware I am violating God's Word**
- 2. I am to seek God's grace to avoid known sin**
- 3. The prayer of my heart**

WRAP IT UP

LIVING IN THE WORD OF GOD

Living in the Word of God is the result of allowing it to soak into our hearts. That is when the Bible's powerful truth transforms our minds, desires and decisions. Here are three practices we can engage in to experience the Word in this life changing way:

READ – STUDY – REFLECT.

Establish the practice of reading the Bible every day.

- Establish a time and a place you will read the Bible.
- Use a reading plan. **Download the 'You Version' Bible App** for hundreds of reading plans, along with dozens of Bible translations, including the ESV, NIV and NASB. You can also access this on your computer at 'bible.com'.

- As you prepare to read the Bible, take a moment to ask God to settle your mind, and open your understanding of what you are about to read. Remember, this is God's Word being spoken to you.
- Use a Bible app on your phone to take the Bible wherever you go. Got a few minutes on your hands? Use them to read the Bible.

Establish the practice of studying the Bible.

- Reading the Bible is a great practice. However, set aside some time each week to enter into a more detailed study of Bible passages. Choose a book of the Bible to work through.
- Invest in a good Study Bible. Both the ESV and NIV Study Bibles contain helpful notes, maps and other tools to help bring great understanding to a passage.
- Try some of these online Bible study websites: biblegateway.com; bible.org; blueletterbible.org.
- Join a Bible study group like a Connection Group, Woman's Bible Study or Men's group.

Establish the practice on reflecting/meditating on Bible passages.

Here are a few steps you can use to reflect more deeply on a passage of the Bible.

- Choose the passage you are going to read. Ask God to clear your mind and give you understanding of what you are about to read.
- Read the passage through for understanding. A good study Bible will help you.
- Read the passage a second time, being sensitive to words or phrases that stand out to you.
- Now read the passage again, this time praying the words and phrases back to God. Sometimes this will be worship, other times it will be asking for the grace to obey, other times confession as you realize you have been disobedient to this particular Scripture.
- Ask God to give you insight into how He wants you to respond to this Passage and prayer, and the grace to respond with obedience. Listen carefully to how God speaks to you.