



Committed to His Word

?

WHAT
ADVICE
WOULD YOU
GIVE TO THE
NEW KID AT
SCHOOL?

The
POINT ➤

God's Word gives trustworthy
guidance for all of life.

➤ PSALM 119:1-11

¹How happy are those whose way is blameless,
who walk according to the LORD's instruction!

²Happy are those who keep his decrees
and seek him with all their heart.

³They do nothing wrong;
they walk in his ways.

⁴You have commanded that your precepts
be diligently kept.

⁵If only my ways were committed
to keeping your statutes!

⁶Then I would not be ashamed
when I think about all your commands.

⁷I will praise you with an upright heart
when I learn your righteous judgments.

⁸I will keep your statutes;
never abandon me.

⁹How can a young man keep his way pure?
By keeping your word.

¹⁰I have sought you with all my heart;
don't let me wander from your commands.

¹¹I have treasured your word in my heart
so that I may not sin against you.



THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE

FACT:

“The dog ate my homework” dates back to 1905, when a preacher shared with someone from his church this excuse for not having his sermon prepared.²



LEVELS OF BIBLICAL LEARNING // BIBLE

The Bible is God’s Truth, is internally consistent and without error, is totally trustworthy, and will last forever.

Teenagers are notorious for thinking they know it all, and it’s likely many of you have sat in class, frustrated because you felt like you knew more about the subject than the instructor. As it turns out, you may have been right. For several years, some states with a shortage of certified teachers allowed non-certified teachers to work in public schools.¹ It may have been better than having no teacher at all, but parents want to know that those who are teaching math or science to their kids actually know what they’re talking about.

When it comes to instruction, we want reliable information. Every day, we encounter many self-proclaimed authorities on all kinds of subjects. These “experts” might be okay if we’re baking a pie or mastering a new dance move, but when it comes to matters of faith and eternity, we need to consider carefully who it is we’re listening to.

We have that kind of authority in the Bible. God has revealed Himself to us through His written Word, and He is the only source and authority worth listening to. In Scripture, when it comes to the most important things in life, we find all the answers we need.

PSALM 119:1-4

1 How is the word “blessed” used in our culture today?

2 How has God’s Word provided guidance for you?



*We aren't saved
by a life of
obedience, but
by God's grace.
#allinBSFL*

PSALM 119:5-8

3 What's the relationship between following God's Word and fellowship with Him?

4 How does obeying God's Word relate to shame in our lives?

5 What are the characteristics of a person devoted to knowing God and keeping His Word?

PSALM 119:9-11

6 How does God's Word keep us from sin?

7 What specific steps can you take to increase the influence of God's Word in your life?

8 How has treasuring God's Word resulted in changes in your life?



LIVE IT OUT

LEVELS OF BIBLICAL LEARNING // BIBLE

The Bible is God's Truth, is internally consistent and without error, is totally trustworthy, and will last forever.

Through the Scriptures, God has revealed Himself, and the primary way we know God is through knowing the Word of God. And with the Bible, God has revealed to us the ways we are to live. The Bible directly addresses many issues related to our day-to-day lives. And concerning those areas that aren't specifically addressed, there are often principles that, with a healthy understanding, can be applied to our lives.

> CHRIST

Relationships are built on communication, and the primary way God chooses to communicate with us is through His Word.

9 Describe your habits of Bible reading and study.

10 How will you commit to spending time in Scripture this week?

11 Memorize Psalm 119:1.

GOD

JESUS

HOLY SPIRIT

BIBLE

SALVATION

CREATION

CHURCH

PEOPLE

FAMILY

COMMUNITY
& WORLD



> COMMUNITY

Apart from Scripture directly, another way God speaks to us is through others, specifically as they share things they've learned from the Bible and principles that apply to our lives.

12 How are you learning from other mature believers?

13 Who are you investing in to help them grow in understanding God's Word?

14 What steps will you take to grow in both these areas?

> CULTURE

The world looks to many sources for wisdom, meaning, and happiness. However, worldly wisdom that doesn't align with God's truth is foolishness.

15 Where does the world look for wisdom?

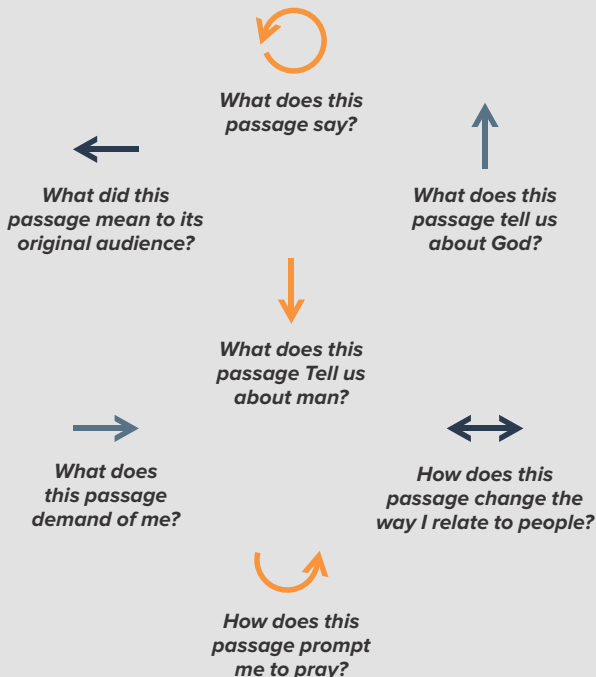
16 How are you tempted to buy into these things?

This week, help a lost friend understand why God's Word is the ultimate source of wisdom which leads to our happiness.

DAILY DEVOTIONS



The 7 Arrows of Bible Reading



Day One

DEUTERONOMY 6:4-5

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 is a passage of Scripture known as the *Shema*, which means specifically “to hear.” Among the Jews, it became a confession of faith which they recited each day. As they repeated this over and over, they were reminded every day that there is one God. This is a reiteration of the first commandment to have no other gods—because there are no other gods. But it’s not enough simply to believe this truth. True followers are called also to love God with all we are. When Jesus was asked which command of the 613 total commands in the Old Testament was the most important, He quoted these verses (Mark 12:29-30). If we are to follow Christ in the ways we are called, just like in the lives of Old Testament Israel, it is essential that we continually remember that there is one God and to love Him with all that we are.

- What other “gods” are you tempted to worship?
- In what ways does your life show that you love God with all that you are? What needs to change?

Day Two

DEUTERONOMY 6:6



There's nothing more frustrating than being told to do something you don't know how to do and not being told how to do it. If your dad said, "I want you to go to the garage and rebuild the transmission on the ol' truck," most of us wouldn't have a clue, and any effort to make it happen would result in pure frustration. Living in relationship with God and up to His standards is a task infinitely more difficult than rebuilding a transmission, and without clear direction, we'd never be able to do it. Thankfully, God gave us His word, and if we'll take it to heart, we can be a part of His family.

➤ **Why did God give us His Word?**

➤ **What does it mean to have God's Word in our hearts?**

Day Three

DEUTERONOMY 6:7

Earlier in the Ten Commandments, God called children to honor their parents. This command was associated with a promise—"so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God is giving you" (Deut. 5:16). All along, God promised that His people would experience blessing when they obeyed Him from the heart, and it was the parents' responsibilities not only to follow God, but to teach their children to follow as well. The way this happens is that parents devote themselves to internalizing and living out God's laws first, and in turn, teach their children to do the same. Today, this is why it's so important for families to go to church and serve together, to worship and study the Bible together in the home, and together learn to apply Biblical principles in the home, at work, and at school. The way to grow in loving God is to have His Word at the center of our thinking all day, every day, no matter what we're doing.

➤ **How have you learned God's Word and the ways you're to apply it in your life?**

➤ **Why is it so important to think on God's Word all the time?**

Day Four

DEUTERONOMY 6:8

At the time when this was written, there were very few copies of the law. The whole law was read to the people at the festivals, and the Jews' interpretation of this verse was that certain verses, those that were weighty and applied broadly to life, were to be written down and remembered. Today, many people do similar things. You may write your favorite verses on your notebook or set a verse as the wallpaper on your phone. Families often have artwork with Bible verses hanging on their walls. And many people memorize verses that are meaningful to them. Either way, the spirit of Deuteronomy 6:8 is that God's Word would literally be in our hands and in our brains. Not physically, of course! But in the ways we use our hands, the principles of God's law should be clearly seen. And in the ways we think, God's Word should always be at the center.

- **How is God's Word in your hands? In your head?**
- **What steps will you take to bind the Scriptures to your life?**

Day Five

DEUTERONOMY 6:9



Many people would argue that the Christian life is private and personal. And in a certain sense, it is. We are individually responsible for the choices we make, and one day we'll stand alone in judgment before the Lord to give an account of the things we have done. However, the life of faith is also collective. The principles from God's Word are to guide not only the ways we live privately in our homes, but also how we live in our cities and beyond. As followers of Christ, we are to devote ourselves wholeheartedly to pursuing Him as individuals. Further, we are to work diligently to see that as many people as possible—our friends at school, our neighbors, government leaders, and people around the world—would surrender their lives to God, following the words He's revealed to us.

- **How do you live out God's Word in your home?**
- **How are you sharing the gospel outside your home—at school, throughout your city, and beyond?**