

Family • Faith • Holy Spirit • Mission



Small Group Preview 1 (Leader Usage)

(Living Life Weekly Bible Study 1, September 1st Scripture, P180)

Focus

When we engrave God's Word on our hearts and keep it, we can stay away from sin and live a pure life.

Ice Breakers

In 19th-century Wales, England, a young girl walked dozens of kilometers because she wanted to read the Bible and purchased one. This event became a decisive catalyst for the establishment of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

Did you ever have an experience as a child when you really wanted to have something?

Examine God's Word

Read Psalms 119:1–16 together. Circle or underline repeated words or expressions that carry important meaning.

NIV	GOD'S WORD	ESV
¹ Blessed are those whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the LORD.	Blessed are those whose lives have integrity, those who follow the teachings of the LORD.	Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD!
² Blessed are those who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart— ³ they do no wrong but follow his ways.	² Blessed are those who obey his written instructions. They wholeheartedly search for him.	2 Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart,
⁴ You have laid down precepts that are to be fully obeyed.	³ They do nothing wrong. They follow his directions.	3 who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways!
⁵ Oh, that my ways were steadfast in obeying your	⁴ You have commanded that your guiding principles be carefully followed. ⁵ I pray that my ways	4 You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.
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decrees! ⁶ Then I would not be put to shame when I consider all your commands. ⁷ I will praise you with an upright heart as I learn your righteous laws. ⁸ I will obey your decrees; do not utterly forsake me. ⁹ How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word. ¹⁰ I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. ¹¹ I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. ¹² Praise be to you, LORD; teach me your decrees. ¹³ With my lips I recount all the laws that come from your mouth. ¹⁴ I rejoice in following your statutes as one rejoices in great riches. ¹⁵ I meditate on your precepts and consider your	may become firmly established so that I can obey your laws. ⁶ Then I will never feel ashamed when I study all your commandments. ⁷ I will give thanks to you as I learn your regulations, which are based on your righteousness. ⁸ I will obey your laws. Never abandon me. ⁹ How can a young person keep his life pure? He can do it by holding on to your word. ¹⁰ I wholeheartedly searched for you. Do not let me wander away from your commandments. ¹¹ I have treasured your promise in my heart so that I may not sin against you. ¹² Thanks be to you, O LORD. Teach me your laws. ¹³ With my lips I have repeated every regulation that	Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes! 6 Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments. 7 I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous rules.^[b] 8 I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me! 9 How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. 10 With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! 11 I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. 12 Blessed are you, O LORD; teach me your statutes! 13 With my lips I declare all the rules^[c] of your mouth. 14 In the way of your testimonies I delight
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ways. 16 I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word.	comes from your mouth. 14 I find joy in the way shown by your written instructions more than I find joy in all kinds of riches. 15 I want to reflect on your guiding principles and study your ways. 16 Your laws make me happy. I never forget your word.	as much as in all riches. 15 I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. 16 I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.
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Understand Setting

Psalm 119 is commonly called an “alphabetic psalm” or an “acrostic psalm.” It is meticulously structured using the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet in order, with eight verses beginning with each letter. Thus, each of the 22 letters has eight verses, making a total of 176 verses. This structure, which uses every letter of the alphabet in sequence without omission, helps us more easily remember and meditate on God’s Word. It is also a literary expression of the perfection and fullness of God’s Word.

Meditate the Text

1. What kind of person does the psalmist say is blessed? (vv. 1 – 2)

Answer: He says that those whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law, and who keep His testimonies are blessed.

Explanation: The psalmist says that those who live according to God’s law are blessed. Here,

the law refers to an attitude of life that seeks to love God and live according to His will. Therefore, we must not confuse following the law with legalism. Legalism uses the law to display one's own righteousness and to become righteous, but the Bible says that no one will be justified by works of the law (Romans 3:20). God justifies those who obey His Word by faith alone (Romans 3:28), and His blessing comes upon those who walk that path with joy.

2. What does the psalmist say can make a young person's way pure? (vv. 9, 11)

Answer: He confesses that a young person can keep their way pure by keeping the Lord's Word and hiding His Word in their heart so that they will not sin.

Explanation: Youth is a time filled with strength and passion. At the same time, it is a time when it is easy to be swept away by emotions and desires. Therefore, it is very important what we use as the foundation for our lives during this season. The psalmist says that the way to keep a young person's life pure is found in God's Word. The Word corrects our thoughts and desires and directs the course of our lives toward God. Those who stay close to God's Word can remain steadfast when facing life's choices and walk a pure path in faith.

Application and Sharing | What Word of God has protected you from committing sin? Share what efforts are necessary to remember God's Word in specific situations.

Point: Leaders, please guide the sharing so that members can share their favorite Bible verses and recognize the importance of memorizing Scripture.

(Example) "Through the Gospel of John, I was able to understand God's love. I will live while always holding on to that love." "Instead of listening to music during my commute, I will use that time to memorize God's Word."

Tip: For a richer time of sharing, you may also use the "Additional Questions" below.

What words are repeated throughout the passage, and what lesson do they teach me?

Small Group Preview 2 (Leader Usage)

(Living Life Weekly Bible Study 4, September 24th Scripture, P186)

Focus

Asking God and then acting is the obedience that God accepts.

Ice Breakers

Eric Liddell, a gold medal favorite in the 100-meter race at the 1924 Paris Olympics, withdrew from the event because the preliminary round was scheduled on Sunday. He later won the gold medal in the 400-meter race.

Have you ever accepted a loss or disadvantage in order to uphold your principles or convictions?

Examine God's Word

Read 1 Chronicles 14:1 – 17 together. Circle or underline repeated words or expressions that carry important meaning.

NIV	GOD'S WORD	ESV
Now Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, along with cedar logs, stonemasons and carpenters to build a palace for him. ² And David knew that the LORD had established him as king over Israel and that his kingdom had been highly exalted for the sake of his people Israel.	King Hiram of Tyre sent messengers to David, along with cedarwood, masons, and carpenters to build a palace for David. ² So David realized that the LORD had established him as king of Israel and that his kingdom was made famous for the sake of Israel, the LORD's people.	And Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, also masons and carpenters to build a house for him. ² And David knew that the LORD had established him as king over Israel, and that his kingdom was highly exalted for the sake of his people Israel.
³ In Jerusalem David took more wives and became the father of more sons and daughters. ⁴ These are the names of the children born to him there: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon, ⁵ Ibhar,	³ David married more wives in Jerusalem and fathered more sons and daughters. ⁴ These are the names of the children who were born to him in Jerusalem: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan,	³ And David took more wives in Jerusalem, and David fathered more sons and daughters. ⁴ These are the names of the children born to him in Jerusalem: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon, ⁵ Ibhar, Elishua, Elpelet, ⁶ Nogah, Nepheg, Japhia, ⁷ Elishama, Beeliada and Eliphelet.
		⁸ When the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king over all Israel, all the Philistines went up to search for

Elishua, Elpelet, ⁶ Nogah, Nepheg, Japhia, ⁷ Elishama, Beeliada^[a] and Eliphelet. ⁸ When the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king over all Israel, they went up in full force to search for him, but David heard about it and went out to meet them. ⁹ Now the Philistines had come and raided the Valley of Rephaim; ¹⁰ so David inquired of God: "Shall I go and attack the Philistines? Will you deliver them into my hands?" The LORD answered him, "Go, I will deliver them into your hands." ¹¹ So David and his men went up to Baal Perazim, and there he defeated them. He said, "As waters break out, God has broken out against my enemies by my hand." So that place was called Baal Perazim.^[b] ¹² The Philistines had abandoned their gods there, and David gave orders to burn them in the fire. ¹³ Once more the Philistines raided the valley; ¹⁴ so David inquired of God again, and God answered him, "Do not go directly after them, but circle around them and attack them in front of the poplar trees. ¹⁵ As soon as you hear the sound of marching in the tops of	Solomon, ⁵ Ibhar, Elishua, Elpelet, ⁶ Nogah, Nepheg, Japhia, ⁷ Elishama, Beeliada, and Eliphelet. ⁸ When the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king of Israel, all of them came to attack David. But David heard about it and went out to meet them. ⁹ The Philistines had come and raided the valley of Rephaim. ¹⁰ David asked God, "Should I attack the Philistines? Will you hand them over to me?" The LORD answered him, "Attack! I will hand them over to you." ¹¹ So David ^ל and his men ^י attacked and defeated the Philistines at Baal Perazim. David said, "Using my power like an overwhelming flood, God has overwhelmed my enemies." That is why they call that place Baal Perazim [The Lord Overwhelms]. ¹² The Philistines left their gods there, so David ordered that the gods be burned. ¹³ The Philistines again raided the valley. ¹⁴ Once more David asked God. God answered him, "Don't go after them. Circle around, and come at them	David. But David heard of it and went out against them. ⁹ Now the Philistines had come and made a raid in the Valley of Rephaim. ¹⁰ And David inquired of God, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will you give them into my hand?" And the LORD said to him, "Go up, and I will give them into your hand." ¹¹ And he went up to Baal-perazim, and David struck them down there. And David said, "God has broken through^[a] my enemies by my hand, like a bursting flood." Therefore the name of that place is called Baal-perazim. ¹² And they left their gods there, and David gave command, and they were burned. ¹³ And the Philistines yet again made a raid in the valley. ¹⁴ And when David again inquired of God, God said to him, "You shall not go up after them; go around and come against them opposite the balsam trees. ¹⁵ And when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, then go out to battle, for God has gone out before you to strike down the army of the Philistines." ¹⁶ And David did as God commanded him, and they struck down the Philistine army from Gibeon to Gezer. ¹⁷ And the fame of David went out into all lands, and the LORD brought the fear of him upon all nations.
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the poplar trees, move out to battle, because that will mean God has gone out in front of you to strike the Philistine army.” ¹⁶ So David did as God commanded him, and they struck down the Philistine army, all the way from Gibeon to Gezer. ¹⁷ So David’s fame spread throughout every land, and the LORD made all the nations fear him.	in front of the balsam trees. ¹⁵ As you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, then go out and fight because God has gone ahead of you to defeat the Philistine army.” ¹⁶ David did as God ordered him, and his men defeated the Philistine army from Gibeon to Gezer. ¹⁷ David’s fame spread through all lands, and the LORD made all the nations fear him.	
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Understand the Setting

The Chronicler reveals that Tyre was the first neighboring nation to recognize David’s kingship and records that a palace was built with the help of King Hiram (v. 1). Hiram’s support in sending cedar wood and skilled craftsmen demonstrates more than a simple friendly relationship; it shows that Israel’s international standing had fundamentally changed during David’s reign.

During Saul’s time, Israel was closer to being a weak nation that had to endure repeated invasions by the Philistines (ch. 10). This change was not the result of David’s diplomatic skill or political success, but a declaration that God Himself exalted David’s kingdom (v. 2).

Meditate the Text

1. Observation and Reflection | When the Philistines came to attack David, how did God answer David’s question, and what was the result of his obedience? (vv. 8–11)

Answer: God told David to go up and said that He would deliver them into David’s

hand. God scattered the Philistines through David.

Explanation: When the Philistines attacked, David asked God two questions (v. 10). He asked whether it was God's will for him to go up and fight and whether the outcome of the battle was in God's hands.

What mattered to David was not the likelihood of victory, but clearly knowing God's will and obeying it. In response, God promised victory in battle. Through David, who obeyed God's will, we see not David's bravery but the fact that God's promises are always fulfilled. After winning the battle, David called the place "Baal-perazim" ("the Lord who breaks through"), confessing that God was the One who brought about the victory.

2. Observation and Reflection | How did God instruct David when he asked a second time? (vv. 13 – 15)

Answer: He instructed David not to go up directly, but to attack when he heard the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees.

Explanation: After experiencing victory by obeying God's command to go up and fight, David did not simply reuse his formula for victory. Instead, he asked God again. David's asking God twice contrasts with Saul, who did not inquire of God (see v. 14). Unlike the previous time, God instructed David not to go up directly but to attack the Philistines from behind, and to fight when he heard the sound of marching in the trees. This emphasizes that David needed to depend on God at every moment rather than on his past experience.

3. Application and Sharing | Share one thing you need to do, like David, by asking God first rather than acting on your own.

Point: Leaders, please guide members to pray first, discern God's will, and seek His guidance before pursuing something or making an important decision.

(Example) "I am thinking about serving at church, so I will pray and seek God's will about which ministry to serve in." "Before bringing an agenda item to a team meeting, I will first ask God."

Tip: For a richer time of sharing, you may also use the "Additional Questions" below.

What lesson does David's life of victory through obedience to God's Word teach me?

Ministry Prayer Request for September

Major Ministry Schedule

May all ministry team leaders who plan and carry out ministries be filled with the Holy Spirit and wisdom.

May the faith of our congregation members become firm through the second-half discipleship courses, and may they experience growth and maturity.

May each small group make *The Living Life* QT a regular part of their daily lives and become communities rich in God's Word and fellowship.

May the 2026 Fall Wednesday Women's Worship Service proceed with God's grace, becoming a time that pleases God and brings souls back to life.

Through the 51st Seattle Duranno Father School, may fathers of this generation rediscover their biblical identity as fathers and build up their families.

Through the 51st One-to-One Discipleship Training Leaders' Course, may participants be well prepared to pass on to others the grace they received as partners.

May those participating in the 5th Relationship Skills Training grow into more mature Christians through training in relationships and emotions.

Through "Mission Gate," may the small one-minute prayers offered each Sunday come together to become a great miracle of love, and may all church members, as prayer soldiers, experience the joy of always walking alongside missionaries.

May You give leadership and wisdom to the small group leaders and co-leaders who serve their groups, so that they may achieve unity.

May You give EW church members abundant grace at every worship service, and may small groups and small group leaders be well established so that new members can settle into the church.