



AUGUST 24-29 , 2020  
SESSION 10: PSALM 119:169-176

HOMEWORK (one hour of your choice)

**OPENING THOUGHTS**

***Have you ever experienced something so good that it made you dissatisfied in every other form of it?***

***How did it change your preferences moving forward? What did you give up or leave behind as a result?***

Intimacy with God has the same effect on us as believers. The deeper we grow in our relationship with Christ, the more dissatisfied we become with worldly things and all they claim to offer. That's what we're going to spend our time talking about in today's session.

**READ**

Psalm 119:169-176

**WATCH**

Session 10 Video (12:20 minutes)

**ANSWER**

(DISCUSSION PREP)

For the last nine weeks, we have looked at how King David encourages his readers to take seriously the Word of God and make it central to their daily lives. As we study the final verses of Psalm 119, we're going to see how Scripture shaped David in his prayers, his praise, and his longings.

Verses 169–176.

***What does David ask for in verses 169–170? (Understanding and deliverance) In what form does he ask for these to be given? (According to God's "word")***

***How do you work to differentiate between worldly wisdom and the wisdom of God?***

***What could you do to be more intentional about pursuing God's wisdom as you make decisions in the future?***

Throughout Psalm 119, we've seen David's love for God's Word, which manifests itself in these verses by shaping the way he prays. It also surfaces in shaping the way he praises God. Let's look back specifically at verses 171–172.

***How do these verses indicate God's Word shapes David's praise?***

At the time of David's writing, "God's Word" was the Old Testament, primarily the first five books of the Bible. These shaped David so thoroughly that they influenced both his prayer and praise life. Yet, many Christians today neglect reading the Old Testament for a variety of reasons.

***How do you feel about reading the Old Testament? Does it create in you the same kind of joy David writes about as the New Testament? Why or why not?***

Matt said that when it comes to God's commands, He is "never trying to take anything from us, He's trying to give to us."

***What do you think about that statement? Do you see God's commands as leading to joy? Or do you tend to see them as restrictive?***

***What would have to change for you to praise God for His Word like David?***

We've already seen how God's Word shapes David's prayers and praise, but it also shapes his longings. Like Matt said, David sees the Lord as an inexhaustible well he longs to draw more from each day. Let's look again at verses 173–175.

***How do these verses reveal a longing on the part of David for a deeper intimacy with God through His Word?***

***Matt described this kind of longing as a "holy dissatisfaction" in everything but God. Who have you known that longs for God with a "holy dissatisfaction"? How has their relationship with Christ impressed upon you?***

***What would it look like for you to grow in your longing for God and His Word? How could you begin pursuing that longing in the days ahead?***

As we've said before, it can be tempting to read this psalm and believe that David felt justified before God because of his obedience. David writes often about his commitment to God's Law and having kept His commandments, but he ends the psalm with a request all of us can relate to—one that points to our need for God to accomplish what we cannot.



Verse 176.

**What is David confessing in this verse?**

(That while he has not forgotten God's Word, he remains inconsistent and in need of help)

***How do you react to your own failures to obey God's Word? What does your response tell you about your view of God?***

Despite his commitment, David recognizes his inability to live in perfect obedience to God's Word. Yet, he responds by crying out to the Lord to fill up where he is lacking, which is a very gospel-oriented prayer. No matter how hard we try, you and I will never be able to live a perfect life. We find ourselves in the same place as David crying out to God to save us. And God has answered that prayer through the person and work of His Son, Jesus Christ.

Read Luke 19:10.

***Who does Jesus say He came to save?***

***What did Matt say believing in Jesus does for our inconsistencies?***

***How should this truth change the way you respond to your own shortcomings? What will you do differently when confronted with your failures in the future?***

**LIVE IT OUT**

**Pray:** Over the course of this week, ask that God would give you a holy dissatisfaction toward the things of the world and continue to create an appetite in your for Christ alone.

**Invite:** If you are in the process of thinking through a decision, reach out to 2–3 trusted believers and ask them for wisdom. Invite them to help you discern what is spiritual wisdom and what is earthly wisdom and trust God to lead you as a result.

**Study:** Pick a book of the Old Testament that you don't know well and commit to studying it over the next several weeks in order to begin familiarizing yourself with the parts of Scripture that remain alien to you.

**Memorize:** Commit to memory Luke 19:10 and let the truth that Jesus came to seek and save the lost encourage you when you identify failures and shortcomings in your life.

**Worship:** Spend time meditating on the ways God has extended His grace to you through Jesus Christ and worship Him for the goodness of His gospel and the lengths He has gone to in order to save you.

**GROUP MEETING**

Zoom (Saturday, August 29, 9-10pm)

