

THE WEEK OF
July 26th, 2010



Summer of
Psalms

Psalm 119:1-48

"Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord!"

Psalm 119:1

For the remainder of our "Summer of Psalms" series we are going to focus on one of the brightest jewels of God's Word, Psalm 119. Of this chapter Charles Spurgeon wrote, "...this Psalm, like the whole Scripture which it praises, is a pearl island, or better still, a garden of sweet flowers." From one facet to the next, David shares his passion and understanding of the centrality of knowing the Word; but not just knowing it, obeying it. "Blessed are the undefiled...who *walk* in the law of the Lord!" The idea of walking is synonymous with obedience. And it also brings to mind the idea of boundaries. If we can walk "in" the law, then we are also able to walk "out" of the law. The line of demarcation is the boundary. Boundaries are so critical to human nature. We are innately rebellious and the desire of our fallen nature is to make our own rules. This is obvious; especially with children. Tell a child to do something and they will automatically want to do the opposite. Draw a line and tell a child not to cross it and what happens? They become consumed with the temptation to cross that line. They also, however, cannot thrive without those parameters or boundaries. Yes there is an initial time of rebellion but once that child accepts the rules they realize the safety and comfort of knowing what is and what isn't acceptable. And so it is with adults. So it is with us. We need the commandments of God. We need His parameters for life. Without them we so easily fall prey to our sinful nature and the destruction that it always brings. Psalm 119, and especially the first stanza, celebrates the beauty and peace found in obeying the Word of God. Again, Spurgeon writes of this, "Our best improvement of this sacred composition will come through getting our minds into intense sympathy with its subject." Let Spurgeon's words be our charge for the remainder of the summer as we wrap up our series with a verse by verse reading of Psalm 119.

Read the Proverb that corresponds with the calendar day *example:*
If it's the 1st day of the month, read Proverbs 1 etc...

Mon: Psalm 119:1-16
Tue: Psalm 119:17-24
Wed: Psalm 119:25-32
Thu: Psalm 119:33-40
Fri: Psalm 119:41-48

Discussion Questions for Bible Café:

1. What is the focus of Psalm 119? How about the first stanza, (verses 1-8) What is David highlighting in these verses?

2. Why are boundaries or parameters so important for us? What happens if we don't have boundaries? Do we typically think of commands in a positive or negative fashion?

Prayer Requests of your Bible Café brothers (on back):