

## Week 41– Questions to Consider

Psalm 119:1-88 ~ Proverbs 24:19-34

### Small Group Warm Up Question:

What are some times or ways you have seen God's greatness and power through nature?

1. Psalm 119 is the longest Psalm in the Bible (and longer than some Bible books). It follows a pattern called an "acrostic" where it is organized by the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet. If you were to summarize Psalm 119 in one word, or one sentence, how would you summarize it?
  2. What is your favorite verse from Psalm 119? Why?
  3. What are some of the various words used to describe the Bible in Psalm 119? How do those words emphasize the important and significance of the Bible to us?
  4. Why do you think Psalm 119 starts out by talking about who is "blessed" (Psalm 119:1-3)? How does that differ with the world's version of "blessed"?
  5. If you make a new rule with your child, what sort of responses might you get? Why do children struggle against rules? Why do parents implement and enforce rules?
  6. How would you define "purity"? (Psalm 118:9) What is the opposite of purity? Why is purity a worthy pursuit? What does God say is key to pursuing purity in this life? Why does Satan oppose purity so passionately?
  7. What challenges in life have you faced in regard to prioritizing the Bible each day? What have you found to be a helpful approach to the discipline of Bible reading and study? How has God blessed you in seasons when you've been more diligent to be in the Word consistently?
  8. What does it mean to be a "sojourner" (Psalm 119:19)? Why is our temporary state here in life so important to consider in light of our eternal residence?
  9. Psalm 119 is full of personal statements... "I will", "I cling", "I have chosen", "I delight", "I am", "I have kept", "I told", "My soul", etc. How has the Bible become personal to you since you were born again?
  10. What is one of your favorite gifts you've received in life? Why was it so special? How did you use it? Why is seeing the Bible as a "gift" an important perspective?
  11. Psalm 119:37 asks God to help "turn my eyes from worthless things." What are "worthless things" you spend too much time on?
- More questions @ [www.southfork.church/psalms-proverbs-discussion-guide](http://www.southfork.church/psalms-proverbs-discussion-guide)

## Purity VS. Worthlessness

Psalm 119 (ESV)

### What is pure?

Psalm 119:9 "How can a young man keep his way pure?  
By guarding it according to your word."

*Pure: "free from moral fault or guilt...free from what weakens, or pollutes"*

Philippians 4:8 "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."

### What is worthless?

Psalm 119:37 "Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things;  
and give me life in your ways."

*Worthless: "having no real value or use"*

1 Corinthians 6:12 "All things are lawful for me,' but not all things are helpful. 'All things are lawful for me,' but I will not be dominated by anything."

Job 31:1 "I have made a covenant with my eyes; how then could I gaze at a virgin?"

## 10 Questions to Ask When Evaluating a Possible Addiction in Your Life:

[www.trustworthyword.com/what-does-the-bible-say-about-addictions](http://www.trustworthyword.com/what-does-the-bible-say-about-addictions)

1. *The Word's Work*: What does the Bible say?
2. *The Prayer Test*: Have I sincerely, openly, honestly prayed about it?
3. *The Spirit's Work*: Am I ashamed? Convicted? Should I be?
4. *Godly Counsel*: What do my godly friends and family think?
5. *Government's Work*: Is it legal or illegal?
6. *The Transparency Test*: Am I hiding this behavior from anyone? Why?
7. *Gospel-Harm*: Does it harm my Gospel witness to others?
8. *Others-Harm*: Is it helpful or harmful to others? Put others at risk?
9. *Self-Harm*: Is it helpful or harmful to me? Use of time/talent/treasures?
10. *Offensive*: Does it offend others around me? Set a good example?

## 6 Steps Into Purity & Away from Worthlessness

1. **R**\_\_\_\_\_ - confess your sin, turn your heart & direction
  - Psalm 119:67 "Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep your word."
2. **Know** - the difference between right and wrong
  - Who are you pleasing? God? Satan?
  - Psalm 119:11 "I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you."
  - Psalm 119:15-16 "I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word."

3. **E**\_\_\_\_\_ - examine how you spend your time & attention
  - *What breaks God's moral law? What brings on guilt? What "weakens" or "pollutes"? What has "no real value or use"?*
  - Psalm 119:59 "When I think on my ways, I turn my feet to your testimonies"
  - Psalm 119:61 "Though the cords of the wicked ensnare me, I do not forget your law"

4. **Commit** - stand up and fight forward
  - Psalm 119:15-16 "I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word."

5. **A**\_\_\_\_\_ - spiritual battles need spiritual strength
  - Psalm 119:10 "With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments!"
  - Psalm 119:37 "Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways."

6. **Change** - make a plan
  - Psalm 119:63 "I am a companion of all who fear you, of those who keep your precepts."
  - Psalm 119:30-32 "I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I set your rules before me. I cling to your testimonies, O LORD; let me not be put to shame! I will run in the way of your commandments when you enlarge my heart!"
  - "How to Protect Yourself and Family from Porn"

[www.trustworthyword.com/protect-from-porn](http://www.trustworthyword.com/protect-from-porn)

## **This Next Week's Psalms & Proverbs Reading Plan:**

Week 42: Psalm 119:89-176 ~ Proverbs 25:1-14

- **Hope & Purpose in Jesus:** [www.southfork.church/jesus](http://www.southfork.church/jesus)
- **Daily Verse by Text Message:** [remind.com/join/sfbcdevo](http://remind.com/join/sfbcdevo)
- **Our Plan:** [www.southfork.church/2023-bible-reading-plan](http://www.southfork.church/2023-bible-reading-plan)

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## ***6 Steps Into Purity & Away from Worthlessness***

1. **Repent** - confess your sin, turn your heart & direction
  - Psalm 119:67 “Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep your word.”
2. **Know** - the difference between right and wrong
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  - Psalm 119:11 “I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.”
  - Psalm 119:15–16 “I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.”

**3. Evaluate** - examine how you spend your time & attention - *What breaks God's moral law? What brings on guilt? What "weakens" or "pollutes"? What has "no real value or use"?*

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