

# God's Greatest Hits

## Studies in Psalms



### Word!

#### Introduction to Psalms 1, 19 & 119

In the online Urban Dictionary, "word" is defined as "a reply to a statement made by another, expressing enthusiasm or agreement". Our study of "God's Greatest Hits" - the Psalms - begins with 3 songs that praise God for His Word. They really are an enthusiastic response to what God has said, underscored by willing obedience. The first psalm declares the blessing of one who refuses to live in the counsel of this world, but rather chooses to meditate on God's Word. Meditation is the key to receiving value from the Word, and the results for such a person are stability and success. In contrast the "wicked" who are opposed to the Word are unstable and have no hope of God's approval. In fact, although God intimately knows the life of the right-

eous, the way of the wicked will simply cease to exist. In the second song of praise for God's Word, Psalm 19, is written by David, the shepherd-king of Israel. Drawing upon his many hours tending flocks by day and night he was able to point to two kinds of messages that God gives to us. First, God speaks in nature, and although the messages are not verbal, they are plentiful—both by day and night. The entire world knows of God's glorious presence from the skies at night and the sun by day. However, the message of God doesn't stop there; with much greater clarity God has spoken in His written Word. This is called the law, the testimony of the Lord, and His precepts, commands, and judgments. All of these bring restoration, wisdom, enlight-



**Singing God's songs helps our hearts connect with His**

enment, satisfaction and protection and are appreciated through meditation and application. Finally, the great anthem of praise for God's Word, Psalm 119, examines the greatness of God's Word with a paragraph corresponding to every letter of the Hebrew alphabet. Like a beautiful diamond that reflects light in almost infinite ways, this psalm presents the glory of God's word in its many aspects. When God's word is examined, we can truly say "Word!".

**The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life**

- **Worship**—You were planned for God's pleasure
- **Fellowship**—You were formed for God's family
- **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
- **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
- **Evangelism**—You were made for a mission

## Daily Study Questions for Psalm 1, 19 & 119

*(For answers to questions attend an ABF or go to [www.thehospitalchurch.com/small groups/ABFs/leader resources](http://www.thehospitalchurch.com/smallgroups/ABFs/leaderresources))*

1. Read Psalm 1:1-3. What is the "posture" of the blessed man (v1), and in what does he delight (v2)? As a result, what does his life look like (v2-3)?	
2. In Psalm 1:4-6 how do those who are "wicked" differ from the righteous (4, 5, 6)? From Psalm 1, who do you think the wicked refers to?	
3. From Ps 19:1-6 where does God speak (v1, 4-6) and how much is said (v2, 4)? Who hears the message (v3), and what point is being made?	

## Psalm 1, 19 & 119 Daily Study Questions (cont)

4. Using Ps 19:7-11 describe the Word of the Lord (v7, 8, 9, 10). What does the Word accomplish for those who are in it (v7, 8, 9, 11)?

5. From Ps 19:12-14 what other value does the Word have (v12-13), and how else should it be used (v14)? What does this mean?

6. Read Ps 119:1-8. What is the purpose of being in God's Word (v1, 2, 3, 4, 5), and what will be the results (v6, 7, 8)?

7. Looking at Ps 119:9-16 what does the Word do for us (v9, 11)? What attitude must we have to be impacted this way (v11, 12, 14, 16)?

8. Using Ps 119:65-72 what life condition helps us to take in the Word (v67, 71)? What value is the Word (v66, 72)?

9. In Ps 119:105-112 what does the Word do for us (v105, 107) and how does this work (v106, 110)?

10. According to Ps 119:161-168 how does God's Word help us in relation to conflict (v165)? What must we do (v161, 162, 163, 164, 167, 168)?

11. As you review Ps 1, 19 & 119 list some things that we can praise God for concerning His Word. What are some key attitudes we must have to enjoy the value of His Word?

### Scripture to Remember

*"Great peace have they who love your law and nothing can make them stumble."*

*Psalm 119:165 (NIV)*

### Celebration Fellowship

*Help—Hope—Healing*

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### Life Group Questions—The Game of Life—Balance

*(Using questions based on today's message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)*

1. Based on how you spend your time and money, which areas of your life get the greatest priority? How do you feel about that?
2. Read Matt 6:33, and discuss what this reveals about God's view of priorities. How does this differ from our typical way of thinking about priorities?
3. Talk about what it means to work to "live", "give", and "worship". Specifically how should that look in your life?
4. What does the Bible say about God's intent for our "rest", resources and relationships? How you think you are doing in these areas, and how could you do better?
5. Discuss the concept of seasonal adjustments—and how you can apply it to your lives.
6. Bring up anything else important to you from the message today if you have time.