

# THE PATH TO PROSPERITY

## Week 3 – Delighting in the Word

### BIG IDEA

Prosperity in God's eyes is not about possessions, wealth, or status. It is about living a life that **flourishes under God's care**—marked by peace, purpose, fruitfulness, integrity, and joy. Psalm 1 teaches that the blessed person is someone who **delights in the law of the Lord** and “meditates on it day and night.” Delighting in God's Word is both **relational** and **formational**—it changes us as we walk with Him.

### 1. READ THE WORD

Read **Psalm 1:1–3**

*Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers. (NIV)*

**Observation:**

Circle or note the contrast between:

- **Wicked** vs. **Righteous**
- **Walk / Stand / Sit** vs. **Delight / Meditate**
- **Chaff** vs. **Tree**
- **Perish** vs. **Prosper**

### 2. WHAT DOES “THE LAW OF THE LORD” MEAN?

In Hebrew, “the law” (Torah) means **instruction**. It can refer to:

- the commandments,

- the books of Moses,
- or broadly **all of God's revealed Word**.

For us today, “the law of the Lord” = **Scripture** (Genesis to Revelation).

**Definition:**

The law of the Lord is the written word of God that reveals who He is and how we should live in a relationship with Him.

You cannot rightly delight in God's Word if you do not delight in **God Himself**. Delight grows in the context of relationship.

**Reflection:**

Do you have a personal relationship with God, or do you mostly just know **about** Him? Write briefly what that relationship currently looks like.

### 3. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO DELIGHT?

To delight = to find **pleasure, joy, desire, longing, and satisfaction**.

We delight in things we've personally experienced—like a favorite food, a favorite place, or a first cup of coffee in the morning.

**To delight in God's Word means:**

You find joy in reading, studying, and applying Scripture to your life.

It is not merely duty—it becomes desire.

### 4. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO MEDITATE?

Meditation in Scripture is not emptying the mind, but **filling** it with God's truth.

**Biblical meditation** = chewing, pondering, rehearsing, turning over, and internalizing the Word.

Pastor Eugene Peterson described it as a **dog with a bone**—working it for every morsel.

**Reflection:**

If delight was measured by attention and meditation, what does your current Scripture intake say you delight in most (news? social media? entertainment? hobbies?)

Write your answer.

## 5. FROM DUTY TO DELIGHT – HOW GOD CHANGES YOUR HEART

The heart change involves a partnership:

God changes desire → You practice discipline.

The sermon gave **three ingredients** that move delight from theory to reality:

### A. CONSUMPTION

You can't delight in something you rarely consume.

Scripture is living and active (Hebrews 4:12).  
It shapes, convicts, comforts, transforms, and renews.

**Practical ways to meditate:**

- **Journal** — write questions, themes, observations.
- **Memorize** — hide the Word in your heart.
- **Pray the text** — turn Scripture into prayer.

**Reflection:**

What is one step you can take to increase your Scripture consumption this week?

### B. OBEDIENCE

The end goal of Scripture is not information, but **transformation**.

*“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.”*  
— James 1:22 (NIV)

When you obey, God's Word becomes more precious to you because you experience its goodness and power.

**Reflection:**

Is there a command, conviction, or teaching of Scripture you need to obey right now?  
Write it down honestly.

## C. DISCIPLINE

Delight is not always instant. Discipline often **precedes** desire.

Discipline complements desire.

When desire is low, discipline carries you toward what you actually want.

Discipline needs:

- a **plan** (reading strategy),
- a **time** (when), and
- a **place** (where).

**Reflection:**

What time of day are you most alert and least distracted?

Could that become your Scripture time?

## 6. WHY THIS MATTERS – THE TREE AND ITS FRUIT

Psalm 1 says the person who delights and meditates on God's Word is like a:

### **Tree planted by streams of water**

Notice:

- It is **planted** (intentional, not random)
- It has a **source** (streams of water)
- It produces **fruit in season**
- It does **not wither**
- **Whatever it does prospers**

This is God's definition of prosperity: steady, fruitful, resilient, rooted.

**Reflection:**

Which of these qualities do you most long for right now—  
**fruitfulness, stability, strength, resilience, or prosperity?**  
Why?

## 7. PERSONAL RESPONSE

Close by reflecting:

**Question:**

What is one concrete change God is calling you to make in relation to His Word?

Write it as a sentence:

“With God’s help, I will \_\_\_\_\_.”

## CLOSING PRAYER

“Father, thank You for giving me Your Word. Grow my delight for You and for Scripture. Transform my desires. Teach me to meditate on Your Word day and night. Make me like a tree planted by streams of water—rooted, fruitful, stable, and prosperous in the life You’ve called me to. In Jesus’ name, amen.”