
Week 1 — Treasure the Word

Introduction

A. What is your view of the Bible?

- J.I. Packer—*If I were the devil..., one of my first aims would be to stop folk from digging into the Bible.*¹
- Deut 32:46—*[Moses] said to them, “Take to heart all the words by which I am warning you today, that you may command them to your children, that they may be careful to do all the words of this law. For it is no empty word for you, but your very life, and by this word you shall live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to possess.”*
- John Piper—*Besides the holy Trinity, there is nothing that exists in all the universe more precious or valuable than the Greek NT.*²

¹ Sproul, R.C., *Knowing Scripture* (Downers Grove, Ill: IVP Books, 2016), 5.

² John Piper, “Radiance, Power, and Purification: The Superiority of Jesus Christ,” message preached at Bethlehem Baptist Church, Minneapolis, April 25, 2026, Desiring God, <https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/radiance-power-and-purification>.

B. Do I Treasure the Word?

- Psalm 119:97–105—*Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day. Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me. I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your testimonies are my meditation. I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts. I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word. I do not turn aside from your rules, for you have taught me. How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*

The Value of the Word

A. Language of Affection

B. The dominant picture: treasure

- Proverbs 2:1–8—*My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God. For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores*

up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity, guarding the paths of justice and watching over the way of his saints.

- George Herbert, The Holy Scriptures (1)³

*O Book! Infinite sweetness! Let my heart
Suck every letter; and a honey gain,
Precious for any grief in any part,
To clear the breast, to mollify all pain.
Thou art all health; health thriving till it make
A full eternity. Thou art a mass
Of strange delights, where we may wish and take.*

II. Why Is the Word Such a Treasure?

A. Through the Word We Know God — the Heart of the Treasure

- John Piper—*In and through the Scriptures we see the glory of God.*⁴
- Jonathan Edwards—*That religion which God requires, and will accept, does not consist in weak, dull, and lifeless wishes, raising us but a little above a state of indifference: God, in his word,*

³ George Herbert, “The Holy Scriptures (1),” in *The Temple*, intro. John Piper (Moscow, ID: Canon Press, 2020), 62-63.

⁴ John Piper, *A Peculiar Glory: How the Christian Scriptures Reveal Their Complete Truthfulness* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2016), 13.

greatly insists upon it, that we be good in earnest, “fervent in spirit,” and our hearts vigorously engaged in religion.⁵

- Psalm 63:1–3—*O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory. Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.*

B. Why Treasure the Word?

- 3 reasons the psalmist treasures this word (Alistar Begg)⁶
 - **Source**
 - **Substance**
 - **Strategy**

⁵ Jonathan Edwards, *Religious Affections*, intro. Joe Rigney (Moscow, ID: Canon Press, 2020), 16–17.

⁶ Alistair Begg, “The Sufficiency of Scripture,” YouTube video,, posted by Truth For Life, 8/23/17, YouTube.

C. What Does Treasuring the Word Look Like?

- Joshua 1:8—*This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.*
- 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.”*

D. We Obey It

- Psalm 19:7–11—*The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.*

E. We Depend upon God to Open Our Eyes

- Psalm 119:18—*“Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law.”*

Conclusion

The Picture of a Disciple

Homework

Read Psalm 119 over the course of the week.

As you read, mark every verse that answers one of two questions:

1. What does the psalmist believe about God's Word?
2. How does the psalmist respond to God's Word?