



Sunday Worship Services at 9am
In-Person in the Sanctuary,
Live Online,
(YouTube, Facebook, reedleymbc.org)
and On Demand after 1pm on Monday

Children's Church
Ages 3 through 1st Grade

1362 L Street Reedley CA
Phone (559) 638-8123
Prayer Line (559) 743-7808
www.reedleymbc.org

CONTACT US!
WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU

Malcolm Light, Senior Pastor	malcolm@reedleymbc.org
Matt Harder, Pastor of Care & Counseling	matt@reedleymbc.org
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Sunday Morning @ 9 AM

Online live @ 9 AM | On Demand after 1 PM on Monday

"... pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." Luke 10:2

Equipping Class

September 12th at 10:40am

Together Again

in the Fellowship Hall

Fall Congregational Meeting

September 12th at 4pm

in the Fellowship Hall

MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

today

Sign up on the App or Website

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS

SEPT 1ST - NOV 3RD

FELLOWSHIP HALL

05.30 PM - 06.10 PM

HARTLAND

FOCUS ON JESUS

Women's Retreat

September 17-19

mike@reedleymbc.org

Free Exercise Class

FAITH FUN FITNESS

CARDIO weights PILATES discs & bands AEROBICS

Tuesday & Thursday @ 5:30pm in SC 100

WEDNESDAYS

6:30-8PM

Sept 1 - Nov 3

BOLT SUPER-CHARGED FOR LIFE

registration opens August 15th

Making Our Mothering Significant

M.O.M.S.

2021-2022

Beholding & Becoming

MOMS Bible Study

September 2nd 9-11am

RMBC SC 200 | Childcare Provided

we're

OPEN!

sundays 10:20am-12pm

in the student center

insta: @the.perk.cafe

the perk

s/s

Sunday School

Classes for everyone!

10:40am to 11:40am

Communion

September 5th

Remembering His Sacrifice

WOW

Women of the Word

2021-2022

TUESDAYS 9-11

in the Fellowship Hall

SEPTEMBER 7TH

The Word of the Lord - Seeing Jesus in the Prophets by nancy guthrie

JHM WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

6:30-8:00 PM

ROOTED

HSM SUNDAY NIGHTS

6:30-8:00 PM

in the student center

For more details on these or additional RMBC Ministries: check the App, Website, or contact the church office at (559) 638-8123. Further details can also be found in today's Journal.





RMBC JOURNAL

REEDLEY MENNONITE BRETHREN CHURCH

WORSHIP TODAY

Sunday - August 29, 2021

only1God

The longest chapter in the Bible, comes in the middle of the Bible, and centers on a single theme – the beauty of God’s Word. As we look at only part of this chapter, we’ll be challenged to center our lives around God’s glorious word. Our text will be Psalm 119. We encourage you to bring a friend with you to worship or invite a friend to join you online for worship!

If you are visiting with us today, we encourage you to download our app (search:reedleymbc), visit our website (reedleymbc.org), or visit our Welcome Center where you can get more information and a gift.

Join the 5 Day Bible Reading Challenge!

This week’s passages: Week 34

Day 1: Isaiah 7-10; Ps 22; Matt 26

Day 2: Isaiah 11-13; Ps 118; Matt 27

Day 3: Isaiah 14-16; Matt 28

Day 4: Micah 17-19; Ps 62; 1 Cor 1

Day 5: Isaiah 20-22; 1 Cor 2

OPPORTUNITIES

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

PRAYER LINE – Would you like to receive our daily Prayer Line? You can via email, or through our App. Please contact the Church Office.

Sunday Morning Prayer - Meets in Pastor Malcolm's office at 8:15am.

Wednesday Morning Prayer - Meets at 6:30am in the Fellowship Hall. Come and join us as we seek the Lord for our church, our community, and our world.

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Missionary of the Week: **Ron and Bonnie Thiesen** serving with YWAM in Budapest, Hungary. Pray for the Thiesen’s as they return back to Hungary following an extended time in the US because of the pandemic. Pray as they reintegrate into their ministry.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

The West Coast Mennonite Relief Sale is coming back in-person to Fresno Pacific University on April 8 & 9, 2022. To make the Sale come to life, we need you! Can you offer your time and talent helping kids and adults save their coins for a relief project at the Sale? Interested? Want to find out more? Contact Steve Goossen at 559-360-6271 or email @ info@westcoastmccsale.org.

Dress A Girl Is Back! A nice dress makes girls less vulnerable to traffickers. By making a simple dress you are being the hands and feet of Jesus. You can get a dress kit with all the materials, trim, thread and instructions from the table at the back of the church today. Fifty dresses went to the Congo last month and 100 more will go to Brazil next month. Help us sew a dress!

STEWARDSHIP

8/15/2021 - Attendance 479
YTD Goal - \$1,827,838
YTD Surplus - \$6,793

GIVING @ RMBC

- Text reedleymbc to 1-888-364-4483
- reedleymbc.org > Give
- RMBC App > Giving
- U S Postal Service
- Office, M-F, 8:30-5pm

Welcome

Welcome to Reedley MB. We’re pleased to have you join us today for our worship service. It’s our prayer that you will meet the living God in this place as we hear from the Word of God. We are here to **GLORIFY** God, **GROW** together as equipped disciples of Jesus Christ, and **GO** proclaiming His gospel to all. If you have any questions, please ask, check out our app, or stop by The Welcome Center on our main lawn.

Malcolm Light, Senior Pastor

Sermon Materials

Each week, Pastor Malcolm sends out sermon materials ahead of Sunday’s sermon. You can find them on our App or if you’d like to receive these in your email, please contact the Church Office.

Upcoming Events

We have upcoming events! Don’t miss out: check the RMBC Website, App, and online Bulletin.

Contact Details

Office: 559-638-8123
Email: kelly@reedleymbc.org
Website: www.reedleymbc.org
Address: 1362 L Street
Reedley, CA 93654



OPPORTUNITIES

Rejoice Devotion Books - September, October, and November are available at the church office, Monday through Friday between 8:30am and 5pm. You can also see Sheila at the Welcome Tent today. Cost is \$5 each.

Full time Custodian needed at RMBC: This employee performs a variety of general custodial and light groundskeeping work in the care and maintenance of the church campus' buildings and grounds. Under the direction of the Business Manager and Custodial Lead, the Custodian performs a variety of semi-skilled and skilled work in the maintenance of buildings, grounds, and equipment. This position may be required to respond to any emergency on a 24-hour basis and may be required to work overtime.

The Annual Meeting for the West Coast Mennonite Relief Sale takes place on Monday, September 13th. All share-holders are invited and welcome to meet together in the Quilt Room, upstairs of the West Coast MCC office at 1010 G Street, Reedley CA. Our meeting will begin at 6:30 pm.

Wednesday Night Fellowship Meals Resume Sept. 1st
This is the perfect opportunity for **eye to eye, face to face, table fellowship!** Join us in the Fellowship Hall from 5:30 to 6:10 pm. Advance reservation required. Sign up by 11am on Monday for that Wednesday's meal on the app, website, email at sheila@reedleymbc.org, or see her on Sunday mornings. Then pay at the door by cash or check. Cost is \$5 for featured meal, \$3 for kid's meal option, or \$20 per household. September 1 menu: Mac & Cheese, Chicken Nuggets, Caesar Salad, & Rice Krispie Treats. [Sign up by noon on August 30th for September 1 meal.](#)

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

MOMS Fellowship Thursdays, 9-11am, in SC 200.

MOMS Bible Study will be "Truthfilled," a study of Colossians by Ruth Chou Simons beginning Thursday, September 2nd.

WOW 2021 - Community Bible Study begins Tuesday September 7th.

Hartland Women's Retreat September 17-19

Enjoy a wonderful weekend of fellowship, friendship, and food while listening to solid Bible teaching and inspiring worship. For details, group rates, and registration contact Pastor Mike.

Contact mike@reedleymbc.org for more information on Women's or Men's Ministry

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

RMBC Kids begins Wednesday, September 1st. Check-in will begin at 6:15pm. The program will run from 6:30-8pm each Wednesday evening. Register your kids now on the RMBC app or website.

Nursery is available for children birth through Age 2 in the Children's Center. **Children's Church** is available for kids 3 years old - 1st grade in SC200. Children will meet in the breezeway when dismissed from the service.

Sunday School - Age 3 through 6th grade meet upstairs in the Student Center at 10:40am. **To allow our teachers time to prepare their classrooms for the children, please do not send them to the Student Center until 10:35am.** Check in children prior to church service in the breezeway or after service on the 1st floor of the Student Center.

Contact tanya@reedleymbc.org for more information on Children's Ministries

ROOTED STUDENT MINISTRIES

Sunday School

Junior High meets in the Student Center upstairs in SC200. Vince Balakian is teaching through the Old Testament.

High School meets downstairs in SC100. Pastor Joel is preparing to start a new series on August 29th on how to biblically resolve conflict.

Serve in Rooted High School Ministries - Would you like to serve as a large or small group leader for the high school ministry? Contact Pastor Joel with your interest. We are seeking volunteers who are open to helping with our Sunday night large groups, leading a mid-week small group, teaching Sunday School, or mentoring students one-on-one.

Rooted Large Group Meetings - All 7-12th grade students are invited to join our junior high and high school groups each week for a time of fellowship, teaching, and fun. Junior high meets from 6:30-8:00pm on Wednesday nights. High school meets from 6:30-8:00pm on Sunday nights. Both events are in the Student Center.

Contact joel@reedleymbc.org for more information on Rooted Student Ministries

MEN'S MINISTRY

Cross Trainers Basketball: Wednesdays, 7pm, Immanuel
Men's Group: Thursdays at noon in the Student Center
Pickleball: Thursdays at 7pm, at the RMBC Court

Knowing the Word

Psalm 119:1-8

Psalm 119 is a unique psalm for a number of reasons. In our modern bound Bible's Psalm 119 is near the middle of the Bible; appropriate as its main thrust is the centrality of God's word for our lives. Psalm 119 is the longest chapter in the Bible, being 176 verses, which makes it longer than 17 of the books in the New Testament. Psalm 119 is unique in its setup being an acrostic. For example, in most of your printed bible's you'll see a title over each section, we'll look today at verse 1-8, which is titled Aleph, the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet. In the 8 verses that make up this first section, the word that would begin each verse will begin with an Aleph. In the next section, the word that would begin each verse would have a bet. The third section, a gimel, and on through the Hebrew alphabet. This would have aided in memory, but also in making the point again that God's Word was to be cherished and encompassed the totality of one's life.

And that's the key truth for us to internalize today: **God's Word is sufficient for every season of life.** God's word is sufficient, it is enough, it is adequate, it is plenty in being able to guide, teach, and equip us as God's people for life. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 teaches this saying, "*All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.*" The sufficiency of scripture is a doctrine that tells us that the Bible, God's Word is sufficient to tell us everything we must believe in order to be saved and what we must do in order to please God. This is an important doctrine and one that sets us apart as protestant and evangelical Christians. We believe that Scripture and Scripture alone is sufficient, is enough, for all of faith and life, for every season and circumstance of life.

And this is what Psalm 119 attests to. This psalm is about the glory, magnificence, and praiseworthiness of the Word of God. We see this in the many words used in Psalm 119 to describe the Word of God. Eight words are used over and over again to describe scripture in this Psalm, and each word carries with it a little nuance and color as the psalmist marvels at God's word.

The psalmist calls God's word **Law**. This is the most frequently used term in this psalm to describe the Bible, and it is a reminder that God's revelation of Himself is not simply for interest but for obedience.

God's word is referred to as a **judgement**, or as we see in verse 7, a **rule**; the sense of this word is that Scripture is to be used and applied to common human situations.

The Bible is a **testimony**, a word that brings to mind the covenantal witness of God's word in informing our actions as a result of God's word.

God's word contains **precepts**, details and teachings that we as God's people are expected to act on. Indifference to God's word is not an option available to God's people, and ultimately not available to anyone.

The Bible is also described as having **statutes**. The word in Hebrew brings the image of an engraving, something that is fixed or determined, and speaks to Scripture's permanence and unchangeable nature.

God's word is filled with **commandments**, which describes the inherent authority of God's word for the life and actions of God's people.

At the most general level, God's word is simply referred to in Psalm 119 and throughout the Bible as the word. This is God's word in any form and contains all the other words used to describe the Bible.

Finally, the Bible is described in Psalm 119 as a promise. The idea is of something to hold on to, to embrace as our own. Here's the point, we do not know the author, occasion, or background of this psalm. But its point couldn't be

more clear: the word of God is sufficient for every season of life. And this glorious theme is what I want to look at for a few moments this morning.

Psalms 119 opens with the truth that **knowing the word blesses us with joy and delight**. *“Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD!”* To be blessed means to be in a right relationship with God. When the Bible speaks of blessing, it is talking about the true source of happiness, the pure essence of joy and delight, which is a reconciled and redeemed relationship with God.

Now there’s a paradox here. **Obedience to God’s word, the psalmist says, is the path to joy**. We’re often led to think and believe that throwing off restrictions, throwing off rules, getting out from under a set of standards and expectations is the real way to joy. If I can just do whatever I want, when I want, how I want – then, then I’ll be happy. Not only does the Bible say this is false, our experience testifies to that insanity as well. Anarchy, lawlessness, while promising fulfilling freedom is an oppressive slavery. God has gifted us with His word not to make our lives more difficult, but to bring us the joy and delight we so often find elusive in trying to go our own way. Blessed are those whose way is blameless, whose way is not marred by disobedience and sin, but who walk, who live according to God’s law and way.

To receive the joy and delight of God’s blessings we also need to seek God in His word diligently. Verse 2, *“Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart, who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways!”* The psalmist is telling us that **divided loyalties distract from God’s blessings**. Blessed people know God’s word and walk in his ways because they want to know God. Church, scripture will draw you closer to God. It’s through the word of God that we know, trust, and serve the Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible is like a telescope. If you look at a telescope, you will see a telescope. But, if you look through the telescope, you can see worlds beyond. To find God in scripture we must seek Him with our whole heart. Guys, you didn’t get to know your wives by keeping them at arms-length, or giving them a few seconds here and there to kinda sorta listen to them and get to know them ... at least I hope that’s not the case. But to often friends, we treat God this way. We want to know Him, but with minimal or no effort. Jesus says in Matthew 6:33, *“But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”* Have no divided loyalties. Give God your full attention. Psalm 119:11 encourages us to know the blessings of God by internalizing His word. Psalm 119:11 says, *“I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.”* Verse 105 says, *“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”* God’s word will guide you to righteousness, away from sin, through your storms, and into God’s delightfully joyful blessings.

This first truth is reinforced by the second truth Psalm 119 speaks about: **Knowing the word demands diligence and duty**. Verse 4, *“You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.”*

I want to quickly point you to three ways we can walk diligently and dutifully in knowing God’s word; three ways we can live obediently to God’s word. First, as verse 4 teaches us we need to **acknowledge God’s authority**. This verse teaches us that God not only tells us what His precepts, His regulations are, but that God expects we will obey them. Verse 4 affirms the fact of God’s authority and also the scope of God’s authority. God’s precepts, those things God has entrusted to man to know and do, God commands us to obey diligently, thoroughly, completely. God expects us to do what He commands, when He commands, and how He commands. And we might rightly ask, so how do I do this? By knowing His word, by seeking God in His word, by studying His word, by being shaped by His word – on our own as well as in the community of faith.

A second way of living diligently and dutifully in knowing God’s word is also given. Verse 5 teaches us that we don’t know it all, can’t know it all on our own; that we need help, so we need to **confess our shortcomings**. Verse 5, *“Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!”* The psalmist’s attention now turns from making statements about God’s word to a prayer to understand God’s word and confess that he can’t do it on his own. The psalmist admits, like all of us, he is still in process – Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes. The psalmist is aware he is a constant learner, that his sin is always seeking to corrupt, and that he will only know God as he submits himself to the diligent duty of seeking God through His word.

Knowing the word demands diligence and duty as we acknowledge God’s authority in His word, confess our shortcomings in obeying His word, and third as we continue to learn that **obedience is the antidote to shame**.

Verse 6, “*Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.*” Friends, the Bible declares and our experience confirms, disobedience produces guilt and shame, and obedience prevents guilt and shame. To avoid the shame of sin that tortures your mind, reddens your cheeks, and burdens your heart is by fixing your eyes on God’s commandments and walking in them.

Knowing the word blesses with joy and delight. Knowing the word demands diligence and duty. And the psalmist ends by **teaching us that knowing the word elicits praise and prayer**. Two vows, two promises, two responses now come from the psalmist as he concludes this first of 22 songs to the glory of God’s word. The first is a vow to live a life of praise by **committing to learn from and live by God’s word**. Verse 7, “*I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous rules.*” The promise the psalmist makes reveals the nature of true praise. True praise is rooted in the will not our emotions. True praise is a choice to praise, to praise out of obedience to Christ, Jesus would say to us in John 14:15, “*If you love me you will keep my commandments.*” We bring glory to God, we praise God as we commit to learn from His word, to diligently seek Him in His word, and then put what we are learning into practice, we live by God’s word. But as most of us know, this is hard. And as Jesus says to His disciples and reminds us, the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. We can endeavor and promise and look to doing it all on our own. But we know, we know too well, that we will most likely fail, or become so discouraged, that we will just quit.

The psalmist knows this too, has likely lived this himself, so says in conclusion in verse 8, “*I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me!*” Friends, if we are going to know the blessings of the word, and keep the demands of the word, **we need to pray for God’s strength to live by God’s word**. We are simply unable to obey God’s word in our own wisdom, will, or wealth of resources. The truth is, spiritual devotion requires divine empowerment. We need God’s guidance, God’s help, God’s Spirit (the Holy Spirit) to help us know God’s word and keep God’s word.

Sometimes, this psalm, and honestly, many who teach the sufficiency of God’s word for our lives, and the necessity of God’s word in our lives are accused of worshipping the Bible rather than God. Psalm 119 is accused of that, I have been accused of that at times too. Jesus says in John 5:39, “*You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.*” Christians, we need to know the Word. We need to marvel that God has given us His word. We need to treasure, and study, submit to, internalize, memorize, and be utterly consumed with God’s word. **But if our knowledge of God’s word does not lead us to knowing THE WORD, then we’ve missed the point**. Jesus is often referred to as the word in the New Testament. Jesus is the living embodiment of God’s word. Jesus’ point in John 5:39 is not that we should not study and love the Bible, His point is that our study and love of scripture will lead us to more love for Jesus as we live obediently to THE Word knowing the word.

Knowing the Word
Psalm 119:1-8

Pastor Malcolm
August 29, 2021

Background on Psalm 119

Longest chapter in the Bible, longer than 17 books in the New Testament

Acrostic pattern, using the Hebrew alphabet, each section being 8 verses

Key Truth: God's word is _____ for every season of life

Eight words are used throughout the psalm to describe God's word

- *Law* – Most common term used in this psalm, God's revelation to man
- *Judgments, Rules* – God's word for common human situations
- *Testimonies* – God's covenant witness from His word to our actions
- *Precepts* – Details to take action, not indifferent to what God says
- *Statutes* – Fixed and determined, engraved; permanence of Scripture
- *Commandments* – The straight and inherent authority of God's word
- *Word* – The most general term used, God's truth in any form
- *Promise* – Similar to "word", idea of something to hold on to

Knowing the Word

Knowing the Word blesses with _____ and _____

- Paradox: _____ is the path to joy
- _____ loyalties _____ from God's blessings

Knowing the Word demands _____ and _____

- _____ God's authority
- _____ your shortcomings
- Obedience is the _____ to shame

Knowing the Word elicits _____ and _____

- Commit to _____ from and _____ by God's word
- Pray for God's _____ to live by God's word

Open Your Heart and Mind

What are some of your habits and strategies for learning and embracing God's word in your life?

Finding God in His Word

Discuss together the idea that God's word is sufficient for every season of life. In what ways do we try to put things alongside God's word, or in place of God's word, rather than relying on God's word?

In order to get a flavor for the overall richness of Psalm 119, I encourage you to read each of the 22 sections with your group or if you are using this study through the week, a couple a day over the next several days. As you do this, mark the various words used to describe Scripture, and discuss how these different words can bring more color to what the psalmist is saying about Scripture.

Knowing the word blesses our lives with joy and delight. Share with your group an example of how a verse, passage, story from the Bible has been a place of joy and delight in your life.

Why do we need to be challenged today with the idea that obedience is actually the path to joy? What would living out this truth in your world look like? How might it be a challenge or a gospel witness to live obediently to others around you?

How would a divided loyalty to God distract from His blessings? Why is the Bible's emphasis in our following after God that we do so with our whole heart? In your life, how have you been a half-hearted follower of Jesus? How will you renew your commitment to whole-heartedly following Him?

Knowing the word demands diligence and duty. Why do we need to devote ourselves to knowing God's word? Why is a casual relationship with God's word not only insufficient but detrimental to our following and obeying Jesus?

Part of knowing God's word is acknowledging God's authority from it. Why would you say God's word has authority in your life? How is that seen by others and applied to the situations of your life?

Knowing God's word also demands humility and the confessing of our shortcomings. We don't know it all, won't know it all, and when it comes to God's word, will never be able to exhaust the depths of God's word. How does our humility before God's word help us in loving it, obeying it, and studying it more?

Why does the psalmist connect obedience to God as flowing from God's word? (See James 1:22-25)

Why should you be concerned with obeying God's word?

Knowing God's word elicits praise and prayer. How does knowing and living out God's word in our lives build in us a life of praise and thanksgiving towards God? How might this praise and thanksgiving spill out to others?

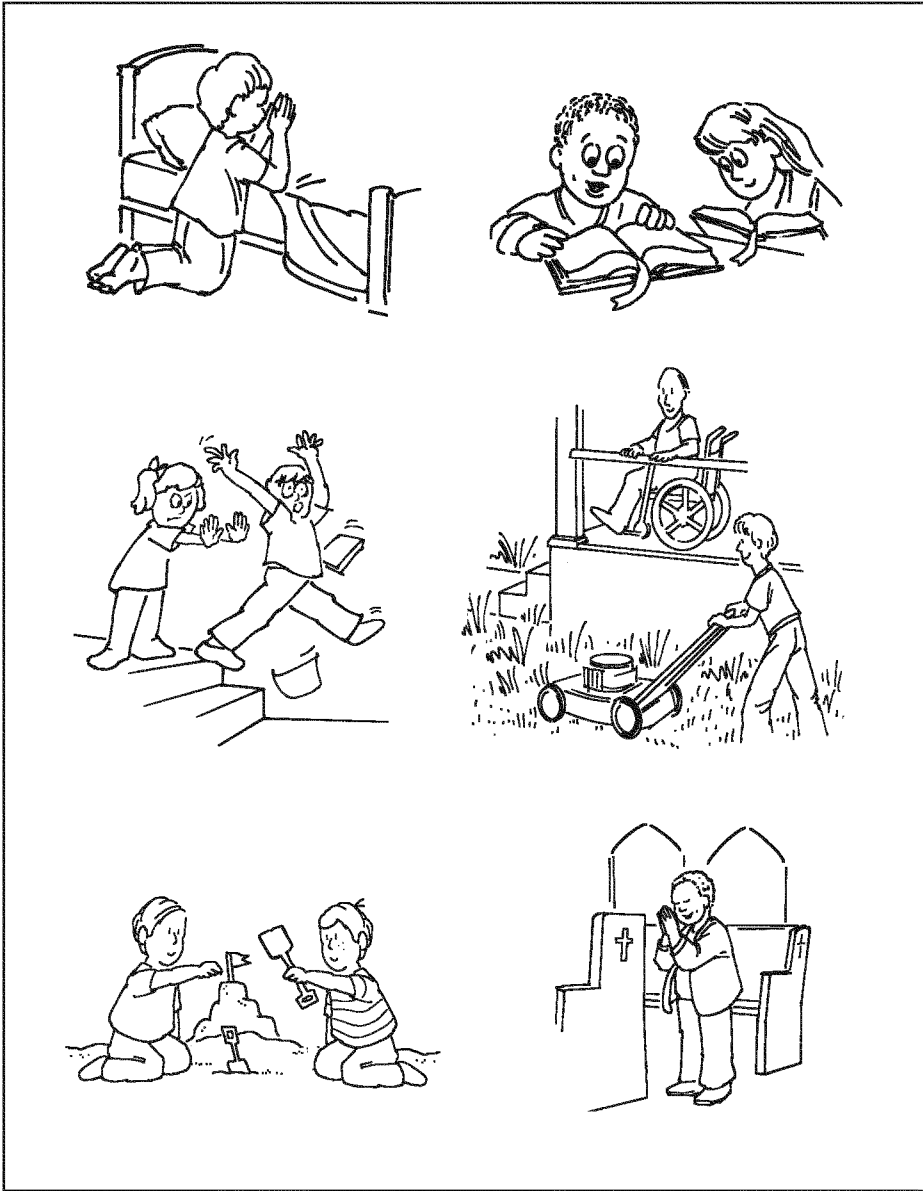
Pastor Malcolm said, "Spiritual devotion requires divine empowerment." Why do we need to ask for and rely upon God's strength to know His word and live obediently to His word?

Live the Christ Life

1. In what way(s) do you see Jesus living out this psalm in the gospels?
2. In what place in your life can you resolve to obey God's word in your life more diligently?

There are many ways to honor God.

Circle the children honoring God.



Ages 3+

August 29, 2021 • Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Clean and Unclean

Some leaders asked Jesus why His disciples ate with "unclean" hands.

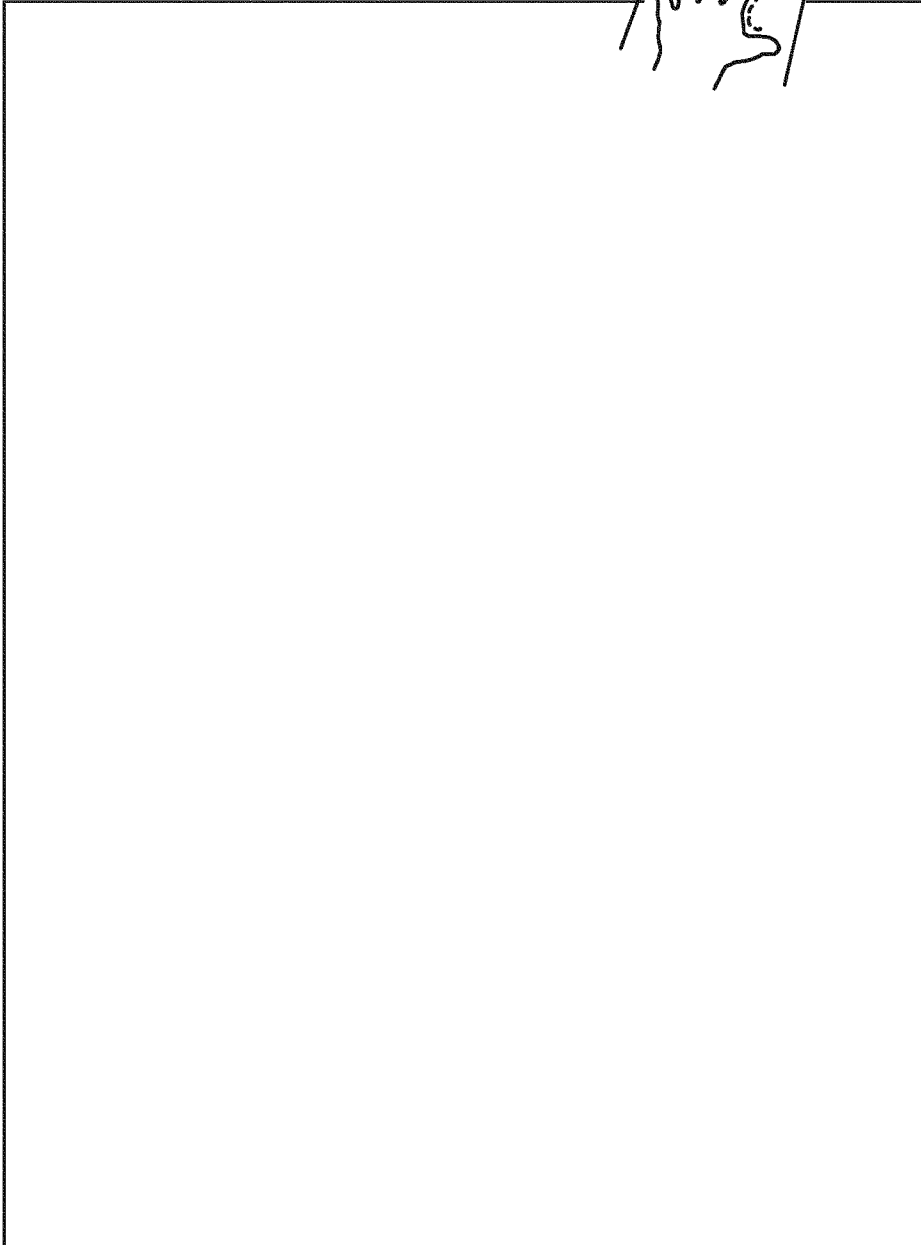
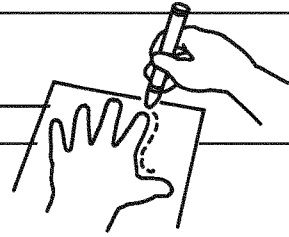
Find and count the hidden  6 or 7?  7 or 8?



Enter your **SECRET CODE** to unlock games @ games.childrensbulletins.com **SECRET CODE**
HXGZJ0

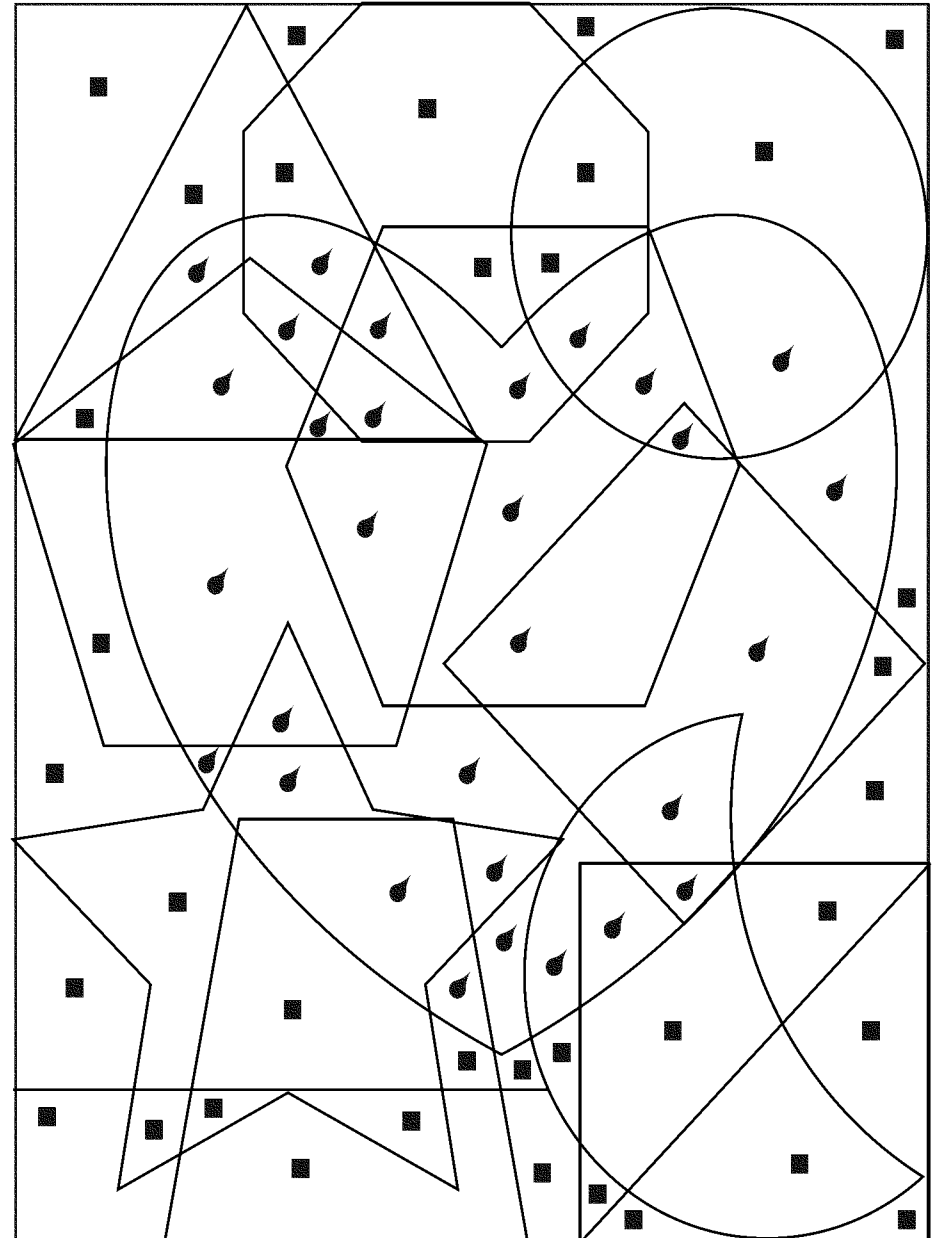
Jesus told them, "Nothing can make a person unclean to God from the outside."

Trace your hand below.



But it's what's inside a person's heart that can be unclean.

Shade in the shapes with a .





STEWARDSHIP

WORSHIP SERVICE- 8/22/21

Attendance Worship 479

YTD Goal \$1,827,838

YTD Surplus \$6,793

WAYS TO GIVE BEYOND CASH

RMBC App or Text reedleymbc

to 1-888-364-4483