



The following is the summary of the Sunday sermon that is sent to the body at Steadfast in an email called "The Weekly"

Psalm 119:161-168

God's Word and Our Stability

Psalm 119 is the longest Psalm in the book of Psalms. There are 176 verses and it is written in an acrostic pattern. It is broken into 22 sections with each section containing 8 verses that correspond to the Hebrew alphabet. The author expresses throughout the Psalm the practical use of God's Word in the life of the believer. He uses eight different words for "God's Word" in Psalm 119 (law, testimony, precept, statute, commandment, judgment, word, and promise). The passage we covered on Sunday was Psalm 119:161-168. We learn from this passage that where there is a deep love and hunger for God's Word there is stability. God's Word brings stability because it leads us to awe and rejoicing. The more our eyes are on Him, the better things look. God's Word brings stability because from it we learn to hate the things God hates and love the things He loves. The psalmists love for the Word led him to hate falsehood. While Satan is the father of lies (John 8:44) and the god of this world (2 Corinthians 4:4), Jesus is the truth (John 14:6) and God's Word is truth (John 17:17). Growing in truth brings stability to our lives! God's Word also brings stability because from it we get an eternal perspective. The Word led the psalmist to praise God and praise brought perspective to the persecution he was enduring. Sometimes when you are going through challenging times the best thing to do is to praise the Lord! As we praise Him, often our problems become smaller, not necessarily because our circumstances have changed, but because our view of God has changed! God's Word also brings stability because it leads us to hope filled obedience. By faith, we wait for His salvation. The believer has a hope filled future. This hope leads the believer to faithfully obey the Lord while waiting for Him.

As you seek to apply this passage to your life, ask yourself these questions:

- Is God's word causing me to grow in my awe of Him and my rejoicing in Him?
- Is God's Word causing me to grow to hate the things God hates and love the things He loves?
- Is God's Word bringing an eternal perspective to my life?

- Is God's Word leading me to live a life of hope-filled obedience?

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