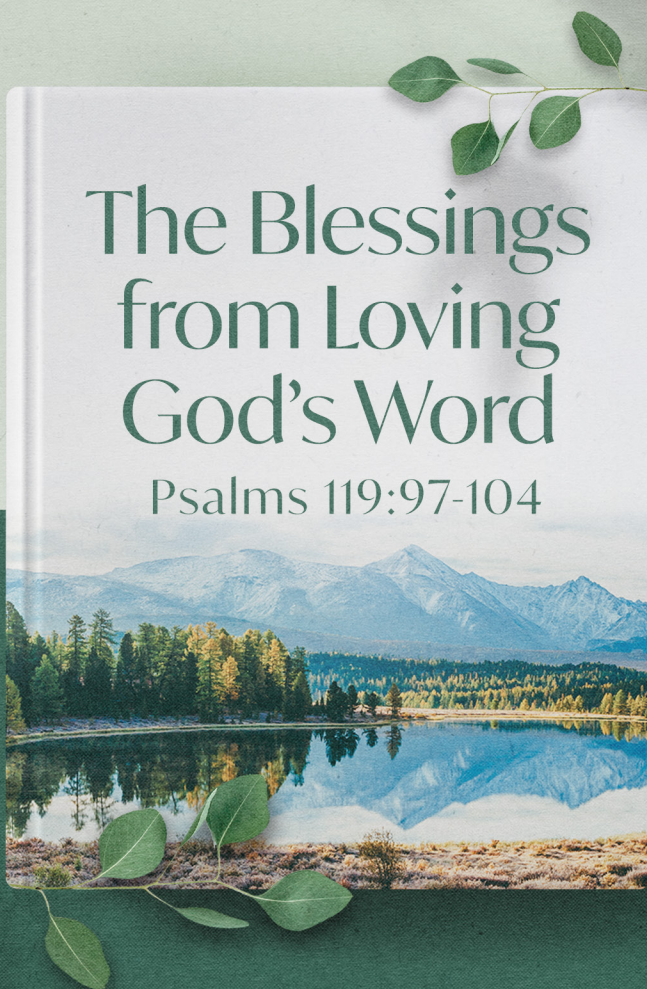


The Psalms

Songs to Keep Your Life in Tune



Message Guide | October 25, 2020

The Blessings From Loving God's Word

Today's Message (25 October 2020) / Psalms 119:97-104

Jesus said that it is not those who know the Word of God but those who apply the Word of God who are truly wise and stable spiritually (Matthew 7:24-25).

GROUP/FAMILY Discussion Questions

1. Think of a possible answer to a professing Christian who says "I love God but I just can't find myself believing what the Bible says".
2. Why does this sometimes happen? "For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food" (Hebrews 5:12). What is one solution you can propose?
3. You want to encourage a relative who is a new believer to read God's Word. What are a couple of good things you can say to inspire him/her?
4. Pray together, and ask God to give all of you a hunger for His Word. Pray that as each of you read God's Word more, you will each hunger more for God Himself.

In this fourth and final installment of a mini-series in Psalm 119, we see the psalmist's joyful exuberance as his love for the God of the Word, made him treasure the Word of God. This love for God's Word brought him blessings that can be for every believer today:

1. WHAT CAN BRING ABOUT BLESSINGS IN THE LIFE OF A BELIEVER? (v. 97)

- The Right Attitude: *Oh how I love your law!* (1 Peter 2:1-3)
The Right Action: *It is my meditation all the day* (Joshua 1:8; Psalms 1:1-3)
- To fully love God means – to love God's Word! And to love God's Word is to reap God's favor (James 1:25)

2. WHAT ARE SOME OF THE WONDERFUL BLESSINGS FOR THOSE WHO LOVE GOD'S WORD? (vv. 98-104)

a) The Blessing of Deep Insight (wisdom and understanding): vv. 98-100

- Compared to enemies, teachers, and so called wise men who were not guided by God's Word, the psalmist had far better insight (1 Corinthians 1:18-25).
- When your life and decision-making is guided by God's Word, you'll have insight that far exceeds what deception, education, or experience can produce (Psalms 111:10; Psalms 119:24, 105).

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b) The Blessing of Good Foresight (to avoid sin and its harm): vv. 101-102

- Insight contributes to foresight, but the psalmist completes the picture by revealing “for You [God] have taught me”. The foresight given by the Word of God keeps him “from every evil way”.
- The Word of God equips you to know what is right, and to do what is right, so that both doctrine and behavior are right. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 explains this well: 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.

c) The Blessing of Pleasant Hindsight: vv. 103-104

- The Bible was sweeter than the choicest food for the psalmist because it was keeping him from a wrong life (“every false way”). Hebrews 5:14 describes him well: “But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil”.
- If your life is blessed with deep insight and good foresight, you'll have only positive perceptions of the nature of the events you've gone through (i.e. hindsight). You will relish the guidance that God's Word has given, and will hopefully have few regrets, if any.

Final Thoughts

Jesus said that it is not those who know the Word of God but those who apply the Word of God who are truly wise and stable spiritually (Matthew 7:24-25). So Meditate on (Psalm 119:97, 99), Memorize (Psalm 119:11) and Apply the Bible (Psalm 119:102). As you grow spiritually, teach and share the Bible (Psalm 119:13).

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. (2 Timothy 3:14-15) ■

The Need of Men

In 2017 Susan Pinker (a psychologist and social science columnist of Wall Street Journal) spoke at Ted Talk and said “**social isolation** is a public health risk of our time”. She mentioned as well that women live 6 to 8 years longer than men. She further revealed that the reason for this is found in the 2 top predictors that will make you live longer: Number 2 is **Close Relationships** and Number 1 is **Social Integration**. Social Integration is interaction with people you are close with or just acquaintances, both with the weak and strong bonds.

Interaction especially “face to face interaction releases neurotransmitters that foster trust, reduce stress, kill pain and induce pleasure” (Susan Pinker). Well, this pandemic has prevented us from having onsite fellowship but we have the next best thing a Zoom Fellowship.

Yesterday we had our **Men's Zoom Fellowship on “Fathering in Every Season” (Spiritual Fathering)**. Elder Aris Lumague gave a very insightful talk on fathering. He highlighted our role in fathering significant people around us not just for the married but even as a single man. We were also reminded of how God fathered us. We had a blast as we were blessed not only with a special song but also a testimony by Paul Tubera. We even had fun participating in a game with a prize!

Men need social integration or fellowship. What science is discovering, the Bible already affirmed in Hebrews 10:24-25 *And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.*

To all the Men out there, we have a variety of groups for you, from the Young People, Young Professionals and to Adult Men that you can have fellowship with. **The UFC** (Young Pro), **Brother's Keeper**, **The King's Merchant** (Businessmen), **The King's Apprentice**, **Kuyas** are just some of the men's groups that you can join or perhaps you might be interested in forming a new one. You may contact me for other details at 09189427350 (P.Sam).

The Things that Women are Good At

Quite obvious that women live longer because they are good at **close relationships** and **social integration**.

“Women are nurturers. Women are sisters. Women are sympathizers. And more. Multitaskers. Standing tall in the midst of sickness. Crying silently. When women gather, these are times of prayer, encouragement, emotional support, and friendship.” Susan Sosmena

The women have more than 30 Growth Groups (GG) that you can choose from in case you do not have a GG yet. We also have special groups with special activities that you can join in.

1. **Naomi** – Widows
2. **SupaMoms** – Single Mothers
3. **SHE** – Single professionals
4. **Joy Women** – Adult Women

We also have a group for Married Women and the Apples of Gold mentoring group. For more information please contact Angie at 09175321921. ■

CHURCH UPDATES

ELECTION OF CHURCH LEADERS

Church members can visit election.gcf.org.ph for information and updates, or email election@gcf.org.ph for specific queries

BELONGING (Midweek Series): *Encouraging One Another*

October 28 (Wed), 8:00 p.m., GCF Facebook Page

REMINDERS OF GOD'S CARE AND FAITHFULNESS

Mondays and Fridays, 8:00 p.m., GCF Facebook Page

LIVestream (Youth LIVE Worship)

Saturdays, 5:00 p.m. on youtube.com/user/gcfyouthlive

KIDS' L.I.F.E. ONLINE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays, 1:00 p.m. on Facebook at [@GCFKidsLIFE](https://www.facebook.com/GCFKidsLIFE)

THE GCF FAMILY'S HOUR OF PRAYER

Thursdays, 8:00 p.m. to 9 p.m. via Zoom

LIFESPRING GROWTH GROUP (SENIOR COUPLES)

Mondays, 8:30 p.m., via Zoom, with Elder Marc Sosmeña

GCF SMALL GROUP TRAINING AND PRECEPT PHILIPPINES

An Inductive Bible Study on Mark 7-13

Sundays, 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. via Zoom, contact Marj at 0917-779-1549

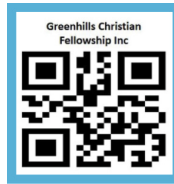
WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

For offerings during this time, please consider the following options:

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- **BDO** (BDO Corporate Center Branch) • **Metrobank** (Ortigas Sapphire Branch)
Savings Account 000661590216 Savings Account 629-3-62919733-9
- **China Bank** (Ortigas ADB Branch) • **GCash (L) and PayMaya (R)**
Savings Account 1112-02006218 (Scan QR code below)
- **UnionBank** (UB Plaza Branch)
Checking Account 0005-9001-0426
- **Robinsons Bank** (Main Office Branch)
Savings Account 1000-3010-0017-355
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(Ortigas Emerald Branch)
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Account name: Greenhills Christian Fellowship, Inc.
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CREDIT/DEBIT CARD THROUGH PAYPAL

Please visit www.gcf.org.ph/give for instructions.

Please email a copy of your transaction document to finance@gcf.org.ph so your giving can be properly recorded and an official receipt can be sent to you.

COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE EFFORTS

You may also designate your giving to our church's efforts to help frontliners and the vulnerable. Just indicate "For COVID-19 fund" when you email your transaction document ■



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☎ Fax No. (02) 8632 1357, Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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