

Psalm 119

If you are new or visiting; *a special warm welcome to you.*
We trust you enjoy your time with us.

Today we will be having communion. If it is your practice to participate in this we welcome you to join with us in celebrating the Lord's Supper. If this is not your custom or if you are unsure of what to do please just pass the emblems (bread and wine) to the person next to you.

THE PLAN

Singing
Worship
Quick Break
Singing
Children to Sunday school
John Hannah

This Week

Today

- Psalm 119 - John Hannah
- Japanese Christian Fellowship - Baptism - Queens Drive from 5pm
- Dr Deane Woods - Queens Drive from 7pm

Friday

- Women's Prayer Meeting - 98 Glenross St at 11:30am
- Youth Group - Meet at the corner chapel at 6:30pm

Next Week

Sunday

- Psalms - Structured Service
- Japanese Christian Fellowship - 5pm

Prayer Requests

- Pray for next weeks service
- Pray for those who are unwell or are finding life a bit of a challenge
- Pray for Japanese Christian Fellowship

INTRODUCTION

- In the entire book of Psalms, eight Psalms are written in an alphabetical arrangement. Ps 119 is the longest of these. It is arranged in 22 stanzas, corresponding with the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet. Each stanza is comprised of eight verses with each line of the stanza beginning with the same letter of the Hebrew alphabet. Thus verses 1-8 begin with the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet, verse 9-16 with the second and so on.
- This Psalm is largely a collection of prayers and meditations on the Word of God which the psalmist refers to be a series of different names, e.g., statutes, law, decrees, commands, precepts, your word, etc. It is from this Psalm that we draw some familiar songs and prayers.
 - Ps 119: 18 *"Open thou mine eyes that I might behold wondrous things out of thy law"*
 - Ps 119:105 *"Thy word is a lamp unto me feet and a light to my path"*.
- Before studying this Psalm it is helpful to first consider a brief New Testament perspective on the Word of God.
 - John 1:1. *"In the beginning was the Word and the Word became flesh"*. Only the Apostle John uses this unique name for Christ. Words reveal the thoughts of one person towards another. We find that Christ, the eternal word, the revelation of God to man, is revealed to us in the written word. Throughout history, the written word has been God's primary means of revealing himself to man. This is how we learn of Him.
 - Scripture suggests that the desire of God is that we know Him not only as the omnipotent holy God, but also as an intimate friend and a heavenly father. Note his words to his disciples in John 15:15, *"No longer do I call you servants, but friends"*. Note also Paul's passion as expressed in Phil. 3:10, *"that I might know him ---"*.
- With this in mind, consider the thoughts of the author of Psalm 119 as he speaks both of his attitude to the Word of God and its adequacy.

A. Attitude to God's Word

1. Delight in it (v.16, **24**, 47, 92, 143)
2. Long for it (v.20, 40)
3. Love it (v.97, 113, 140, 159, 163, **167**)
4. Meditate upon it and delight in it (v.**15**, 78, 97)
5. Memorise it (v.**11**, 83, 93)
6. Obey it immediately (v.17, 30-32, 34, 44, 56, **60**, 100, 106, 112, 145)
7. Respect it (v.120)
8. Seek to learn and understand it (v.18, 26, 27, 64, 68, **73**, 108, 125)
9. Trust it (v.74, 81, 86, 114, 147).

"The vigour of our spiritual life is in direct proportion to the place of the Word of God in my heart." George Muller

B. The Adequacy of God's Word

1. It provides comfort and peace (v.52, **165**).
2. It has eternal value and is boundless (v.89, 96, **152**)
3. It provides guidance (v.**105**, 137,160).
4. It gives freedom (v.45)
5. It is priceless treasure (v.72)
6. It protects us from sin and provides safety (v.9-11, 93)
7. It gives wisdom and understanding (v.98-100, 104, 130)

"Lay hold on the Bible until the Bible lays hold on you" Will H Houghton

"All the good from the Saviour of the world is communicated through this book. All the things desirable to man are contained in it." Abraham Lincoln

Notes

Small Groups

Tuesday

- Ladies Home Group - see Laura Hannah 473-7954
- Mornington Home Group - see Jonathan Gauntlett 453-4195
- Central Home Group - see Steve Clark 479-2070
- Brockville Home Group - see Geoffrey Stewart 476-7888

Wednesday

- Pine Hill Home Group - see John Hannah 473-7954

Friday

- Halfway Bush Home Group - see Gideon Chang 476-7101

NOTICES

- 1) If you would like to receive **copies of the information** that is sent to the church and often finds its way to the foyer please email Zibi John to advise him you would like to receive this. zbjohn@gmail.com
- 2) Tonight, **Japanese Christian Fellowship** will celebrate the **baptism** of Sachika. The service will be held at Queens Drive Gospel Hall from 5:00pm and will be followed by a shared dinner.
- 3) Following the JCF baptism and shared tea, **Dr. Deane Woods** from the **Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry** Inc. will report on the work of the Friends of Israel, and give current comments and updates on the Middle East and Israel. Deane comes with a life-time of teaching, pastoring and lecturing, and a keen interest in Biblical Prophecy and the people of Israel. Dr. Woods will speak at Queens Drive Gospel Hall from 7:00pm.
- 4) **Making of Disciples Ministries (MODM)** are holding a meeting at Bethel Christian Fellowship, Balclutha on Saturday **5th August** from 4pm. **Steve Ferguson** will speak on "Living 4 Christ". A shared tea will follow. Phone (03) 418-0327 for more details.
- 5) **Age Concern** is calling for **volunteers** for their 'Friendly Voices' services. This is a free telephone service the aim of which is to enhance the well-being and quality of life of older people who are socially isolated. See Alan Knight for a pamphlet and more details if you are interested in volunteering.
- 6) The content needs to be updated on the **website**. Alan/Zibi are looking for up to date information, some photographs are required for the site. If you have any information pertaining to The Cornerstone church activities that you would like included please see Alan Knight or Zibi John.
- 7) **Giving by automatic payment** can be made into the following account - **Wray Street Gospel Chapel 030903 0379365 00**. Envelope numbers for donations can be obtained from Fienie or Sue.