



*The Wonder Of God's Word*  
*Psalm 119*

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*God's Word Instructs*  
*Verses 33-40*

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This stanza of the **Psalm** opens with a request to be taught and illustrates the **instructing** power of God's Word. **Paul** illustrated the **instructing** power of the Word of God to **Timothy [II Timothy 3:15-16]**. As one reads this stanza of the **119th Psalm** it is important to keep in mind that these are the words of one who **delights** in the Word of God. He stated in **verse 35 "for therein** (referring back to the commandments) **do I** (present tense) **"delight"** To **"delight"** in the Word of God is to take **pleasure** in it. To **"delight"** in the Word of God is to find it **enjoyable**. To **"delight"** in the Word of God is to be **enchanted, captivated, and thrilled** by it. To **"delight"** in the Word of God is to be **excited** by it. To **"delight"** in the Word of God is to **love** it, to **relish** it, and to find **happiness** in it. To **"delight"** in the Word of God means that it has a definite place in one's life. **Jesus** said to the unbelievers in **John 8:37** that the Word of God had no place in them, and sadly this is true of most.

These are the words of one who desires to be **quicken**ed by the means of God's Word [**verses 37, 40**]. The **Psalmist** desired to be continually **revived**, and **stimulated** by the Word of God.

These are also the words of one who **longs** for the Word of God [**verse 40**]. He **yearned**, he **thirsted**, and **hungered** for the Word of God, he had a **craving** and **eagerness** for the Word of God! Like **Job** he found greater benefit in the Word of God than physical food [**Job 23:12**], and therefore he had a longing in His heart for the Word of God!

These are the words of one who takes the position of a **servant [verse 38]**. This speaks of a position of **humility** and **submission**.

These are the words of one who is **dedicated to the reverence of the Lord [verse 38]**. These are the words of one who is committed to showing **regard** and **respect** to the Lord.

These are all characteristics of a **teachable** spirit. It is a matter of extreme importance that the child of God always maintain a teachable spirit. This stanza of the **119th Psalm** are the expression of a **teachable** spirit.

**1. HE PRAYS TO BE TAUGHT THE WORD OF GOD:**

**"Teach me, O LORD the way of thy statutes"** [**verse 33**]. In this prayer, the teachable spirit takes the position of **student-"Teach me"** He recognizes the **Lord** as his **teacher-"O LORD"** and he perceives the Word of God as the **lesson** to be learned-"**the way of thy statutes"** He desired to be taught the Word of God by the **Lord** as his teacher, because such

would have a **practical** and **continuous** impact upon his life-"*and I shall keep it* (the way of thy statutes) *unto the end*"

**2. HE PRAYS FOR UNDERSTANDING:**

*"Give me understanding"* [verse 34]. "*Understanding*" is the result of truly learning what is taught. "*Understanding*" is **perception**, **awareness**, and **comprehension**. The result of such is twofold; "*and I shall keep thy law*" and "*yea* (a word used for emphasis to introduce a stronger word than the one just used), *I shall observe* (comply with, abide by, adhere to, and follow) *it with my whole heart*"

**3. HE PRAYS FOR DIRECTION ACCORDING TO GOD'S WORD:**

*"Make me to go in the path of thy commandments"* [verse 35]. These are the words of one who realizes and recognizes his own inclination to wander from the ways of God, and the danger of such.

**4. HE PRAYS FOR INCLINATION OF HEART TOWARD THE WORD OF GOD:**

*"Incline my heart unto thy testimonies"* [verse 36]. He is praying that the **Lord** would **bias**, and **influence**, and **persuade** his heart in the Word of God, to cause him to **prefer** the Word of God, and to **gravitate** toward the Word of God. This is the prayer of one who realizes and recognizes his own sinful disposition for the ways of the world-"*and not to covetousness*"

**5. HE PRAYS TO BE DELIVERED FROM THAT WHICH WOULD HINDER HIM FROM BEING TAUGHT:**

*"Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity"* [verse 37]. He is praying to be restrained from going after that which is **futile** and gets in the way of truly being taught the Word of God. "*Turn away my reproach*" [verse 39]. He is praying to be delivered from his own **failures**, and those things that were contrary to his spiritual well-being.

**6. HE PRAYS FOR ESTABLISHMENT IN THE WORD OF GOD:**

*"Stablish thy word unto thy servant"* [verse 38]. This is a prayer for **grounding** in the Word of God, and a prayer for the Word of God to be fulfilled in his life

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This stanza of the **119th Psalm** reveals the characteristics of one who can be taught the Word of God. The words of this stanza ought to be the daily prayer of God's people.

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