

THE MINI STUDIES

~A MONTH IN PSALMS 119-127~

These mini studies are designed to keep you in the Word by building daily habits studying the Bible *and* by helping you grow in your Bible study skills of observation, interpretation, and application. I have purposely kept these studies short, limiting the questions, but you can bless your own spiritual socks by adding your own observations about the psalm. You can train yourself to ask and then answer questions like “*What situation does the psalmist find himself in?*” “*What does the psalmist ask of God?*” “*What does the psalmist know about God?*” “*How does God help the psalmist?*”

Please note that these mini studies *primarily* and *purposely* focus on what you can *observe* in the text itself. Without a doubt, your understanding would be greatly aided if I added cross references to provide insight into what the psalm writer is expressing. The use of cross references is a valuable Bible study tool and is one of many tools I employ in my *longer* Bible studies. Yet taking the time to do this kind of systematizing of what the Bible teaches on a subject would defeat the purpose of these daily, mini lessons. Please use these mini studies as a way hone your observation Bible study skills by simply looking at text itself.

To deepen your study time as you read through each psalm, or *any* portion of Scripture, learn to ask: “*What can I learn about God’s character from this Psalm or portion of Scripture?*” “*What truths transcend time and culture that I can apply to my own life?*” “*Are there any attitudes in my own heart that need changed?*” “*What truths can be in my mind and heart throughout the day?*”

Ready to get started?

1. Day 1. *Read Psalm 119:1-8. Aleph.*
 - a. Psalm 119 has been described as an acrostic in praise of the Scriptures. Each of the 22 sections are comprised of stanzas of 8 lines each, which in Hebrew begin with one of the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet. In Hebrew all the lines in the first stanza begin with “aleph” the first letter in the Hebrew alphabet.
 - b. What do you observe about the “blessed” in verses 1-3? Consider *why* following that prescription for your life would result in your happiness and blessing.
 - c. What does God desire you to do according to verse 4?

- d. How does the psalmist respond in verse 5? What reason is given for obeying the Lord according to verse 6? Why is that a powerful motivation for all believers?
- e. What are the determinations of the psalmist in verses 7-8? Explain the connection between giving thanks and learning God's Word.

2. Day 2. *Read Psalm 119:9-16. Beth.*

- a. What is the answer for walking in God's ways according to verse 9?
- b. What do you notice about the motivations and actions of the psalmist in verses 10-11?
- c. Who does the psalmist ask to teach him according to verse 12? Why is that an essential request?
- d. As you learn God's Word and live it out, what is the natural outflow according to verses 13-16?
- e. What truths from this section of Psalm 119 do you want to continue to live upon today?

3. Day 3. *Read Psalm 119:17-24. Gimel.*

- a. List all the things the psalmist asks of the Lord from verses 17-24.
- b. After the psalmist makes his requests of the Lord, what are the reasons or results he desires in his life? See verses 17-24.

- c. Now list the statements the psalmist makes about himself or about the Lord in verses 20-21, 23-24.

 - d. What picture do you gain about the psalmist from this section of Psalm 119? How are your own desires in line with his?

 - e. What aspects of this psalm do you want to take with you today?
4. Day 4. *Read Psalm 119:25-32. Daleth.*
- a. What is the psalmist's need and his solution according to verse 25? How can you learn to prize the psalmist's solution from verse 25? How would your life change as a result?

 - b. In verses 26-27 you can see the psalmist's teachable spirit against the backdrop of his difficult circumstances. Again, what is his solution that he takes to the Lord from verses 26-27?

 - c. In his grief, what does the psalmist desire according to verse 28? How can you apply that same principle today, even if your circumstances are far easier than the psalmist's?

 - d. A hint as to why the psalmist was grieving can be found in verse 29. What do you learn?

 - e. What determinations of faith and trust does the psalmist make before the Lord? What are your own heart determinations of faith and trust in the Lord for today?

5. Day 5. *Read Psalm 119:33-40. He.*

- a. What does the psalmist ask of the Lord in verses 33-34? What is the result he desires to see in his life from those same verses?
- b. He asks something else from the Lord in verse 35. What is it? What reason does he give?
- c. Not only does he turn toward the Lord, but the psalmist also turns away from things. What does he turn away from according to verses 36-37?
- d. What is the sure-fire solution that will build those desires in anyone who seeks the Lord? See verse 38.
- e. In verses 39-40, what evidence can you find that the psalmist understands he cannot approach God in his own righteousness? How does the Word of God build this understanding in you?

6. Day 6. *Read Psalm 119:41-48. Vav.*

- a. What does the psalmist ask in verse 41? What reason is given for his request in verse 42?
- b. What is the psalmist afraid might happen according to verse 43? What commitment does he make to the Lord in verse 43?
- c. The psalmist then declares his intentions to the Lord in verses 44-48. What does he intend to do? What are some reasons given?

- d. What are your heart intentions toward the Lord and His Word today? Take some time to talk to the Lord about them.

7. Day 7. *Read Psalm 119:49-56. Zayin.*

- a. What is the psalmist's hope in verse 49?
- b. What do you learn about the Word of God in verse 50? How can that truth impact your daily life?
- c. What situation is the psalmist facing according to verses 51-53? What is his response?
- d. How would you describe the focus of the psalmist's life and thought according to verses 54-56?
- e. Consider the songs of your heart and your nighttime thoughts. In what ways are they similar to the psalmist and how do they differ? What are some ways you can instill more of God's Word into your thoughts and life?

8. Day 8. *Read Psalm 119:57-64. Heth.*

- a. When the Lord is your portion, what does your life look like according to verses 57-64?
- b. List as many observations as you can about verse 59.
- c. After considering his ways, what does the psalmist do in verse 60?

- d. The influence of other godly and God-seeking friends is put on display in verse 63. What impact does that have upon the psalmist? Can the same be said of you and your own friendships?
 - e. What is the psalmist's response when he views the world according to verse 64?
9. Day 9. *Read Psalm 119:65-72. Teth.*
- a. How does the psalmist view God's dealings with him according to verse 65? What response does it inspire in him? See verse 66.
 - b. What do you learn about the psalmist in verse 67? How is this significant in light of what he said in verse 65?
 - c. What truths about God does he meditate upon? See verse 68. How can believing those things are true of God affect your attitudes in life?
 - d. What contrast is painted between the psalmist and those who don't seek the Lord in verses 69-70?
 - e. What does affliction do for you according to verse 71? What attitude does it produce in your heart? See verse 72.
10. Day 10. *Read Psalm 119:73-80. Yodh.*
- a. Explain the connection between God making you and how He helps you understand His Word from verse 73.

- b. What does the psalmist desire according to verse 74?
 - c. What do you learn about God from verses 75-77?
 - d. What further requests does the psalmist bring to the Lord from verses 78-80?
 - e. What is one truth from this section of Psalm 119 that you want to think on throughout the rest of the day?
11. Day 11. *Read Psalm 119:81-88. Kaph.*
- a. What situation does the psalmist describe from verses 81-88?
 - b. In spite of his circumstances, what is the psalmist looking for according to these verses?
 - c. What is the psalmist's great desire according to verse 88?
 - d. How would reminding yourself from verse 86 that God's commandments are faithful (sure, trustworthy) help you persevere in times of affliction?
12. Day 12. *Read Psalm 119:89-96. Lamedh.*
- a. How is the eternity of God a comfort according to verses 89-91?

- b. What one truth does the psalmist understand that you need to also embrace in your life according to verse 92?
 - c. What does the Word of God do for you according to verse 93?
 - d. While the wicked plot and plan, what does the psalmist intend to do in verses 94-95? How can that be an encouragement for you as well?
 - e. What contrast is being made between perfection and God's Word in verse 96? Why is that a comfort?
13. Day 13. *Read Psalm 119:97-104. Mem.*
- a. What do you learn about God's Word from verses 97-100?
 - b. How can you show that same love and appreciation for God's Word in your life?
 - c. What does the psalmist do in order to obey God's Word according to verses 101-102?
 - d. How does the psalmist view God's Word according to verses 103-104?
 - e. The psalmist was filled with love and desire for God's Word and His ways. What attitudes helped him maintain that focus as seen in verses 97-104?

14. Day 14. Read Psalm 119:105-112. Nun.
- a. What does your life look like if the Word of God is a lamp to your feet and a light to your path? See verse 105.
 - b. What is the psalmist's determination according to verse 106? How is that the heart intent of all those who trust the Lord?
 - c. What does the psalmist need in verse 107? Why? As a result of God's mercy to him, what does he intend to do in verse 108?
 - d. The psalmist's trials are identified in verses 109-110. What do you learn about his circumstances? Where does he place his hope?
 - e. What attitudes guide the psalmist's life according to verses 111-112? Spend some time considering how or in what degree God's Word is the *joy of your heart*.
15. Day 15. Read Psalm 119:113-120. Samekh.
- a. What observations can you make about the double-minded according to verses 113-116?
 - b. In contrast, what do you observe about those whose hearts belong to the Lord from verses 113-116?
 - c. What happens to the double-minded according to verses 117-120? Why?

- d. The double-minded experience the consequences of their rebellion. How is that a motivation to the psalmist in verses 117-120? How can those same reasons make an impact on how you live your life and the choices you make?

16. Day 16. *Read Psalm 119:121-128. Ayin.*

- a. What is the psalmist afraid might happen according to verses 121-122?
- b. What things are the focus of the psalmist's requests in verses 123-125?
- c. What does the psalmist understand about God's just and holy nature as seen in verse 126?
- d. How is God's justice and holiness a motivation to the psalmist in verses 127-128? How should those same aspects of God's character be a motivation in your life as well?

17. Day 17. *Read Psalm 119:129-136. Pe.*

- a. How does the psalmist view God's Word according to verse 129? What is his response? Isn't that always the way it is when we prize something? How would *you* describe God's Word?
- b. What does the Word do for you in verse 130?
- c. With that knowledge of the Word's power, what does it inspire within the psalmist *and* within you? See verses 131-133.

- d. What hindrance to obedience does the psalmist pray about in verse 134? How is his prayer request in verse 135 a good solution? Have you ever experienced this situation? How did the Lord help you in it?

- e. How does the psalmist further reveal his love for God and His Word in verse 136?

18. Day 18. Read Psalm 119:137-144. *Tsadhe*.

- a. List what you learn about the Lord and His Word from verses 137-144.

- b. Why are those qualities about God and His Word so important when it comes to living upon the Scriptures in times of difficulty? Consider what it would be like if the Lord *weren't* righteous or upright in all His does. Or consider what it would be like if you couldn't trust the purity and holiness of God's judgments and ways.

- c. How does the psalmist's meditations on God's Word affect him in this section of Psalm 119?

- d. What final plea does the psalmist bring before the Lord in verse 144? How would your life be different, even if that were the only prayer you prayed?

19. Day 19. Read Psalm 119:145-152. *Qoph*.

- a. What does the psalmist cry out to the Lord about in verses 145-147? How does that word *cry* add emphasis to what he's asking of the Lord in those verses?

- b. What does he look forward to and why from verse 148? Why would that be something special to look forward to, especially in light of verses 145-147?

- c. How does the psalmist want God to listen to his requests in verse 149? What does he trust the Lord will do through the Word in verse 149?
 - d. What do you learn about the wicked and the Lord in verses 150-151?
 - e. What final comforting thoughts about God's Word end this stanza in verses 151-152? What truths from this psalm comfort and strengthen you today?
20. Day 20. *Read Psalm 119:153-160. Resh.*
- a. As you look at verses 153-154, describe the situation the psalmist is facing. From these verses, what does he understand about God?
 - b. What do you learn about the wicked in verse 155? Though it's not stated, what can you surmise is true about those who trust the Lord from verse 155?
 - c. What truth about God encourages the psalmist to make his request in verse 156? How can those same truths about God encourage you to draw near to the Lord?
 - d. What do you learn about the psalmist's heart from verses 157-158?
 - e. What is the connection between the Word of God and a revived spirit? See verses 156 and 159.
 - f. What do you learn about the Word of God in verse 160? How are those soul-reviving qualities?

21. Day 21. *Read Psalm 119:161-168. Shin.*

- a. What does the psalmist do in spite of his circumstances in verse 161?
- b. The reason he's able to maintain such gratitude can be found in verses 162-164. What do you learn about his heart's focus?
- c. What great truth is found in verse 165? Why is that a true statement? How can you apply it in your own life more faithfully?
- d. What is the focus of the psalmist's life according to verses 166-168? What is the result in his life? What are some ways you can adjust your "focus" to reflect more closely what we see here in these verses?

22. Day 22. *Read Psalm 119:169-176. Tav.*

- a. In verses 169-173, 175, what does the psalmist ask of the Lord in the first line of each verse?
- b. From those same verses, what does the psalmist hope will be the result or is the case in his life (verses 169-173, 175)?
- c. What is the connection between his desires and asking the Lord for them and the way he lives his life? What desires for your heart and life have you asked of the Lord lately?
- d. What is the psalmist's deepest longing according to verse 174?

- e. Though the psalmist desires to follow the Lord faithfully, what happened to him? See verse 176. What is his solution to his situation? See verse 176. How can that be an encouragement to you when you find yourself off track in some way?

23. Day 23. *Read Psalm 120.*

- a. The psalmist is in trouble. What does he do according to verse 1? What is the result? What does verse 1 teach you about God?
- b. How does the psalmist describe his troubling circumstances in verses 2-4?
- c. What part of the psalmist needs delivering according to verse 2? Why does the psalmist ask for deliverance there? What situations in your life need to be worked out like verses 1 and 2?
- d. Verses 5-7 add more details about his trials. What do you learn?
- e. In the end, no matter what your circumstances, you can live upon verse 1. How can that truth encourage and strengthen you today?

24. Day 24. *Read Psalm 121.*

- a. What might you be tempted to look to for help according to verse 1?
- b. Where can you find help (verse 2)?
- c. What do you learn about the Lord from verses 2-4?

- d. What else do you learn about the Lord from verses 5-8?
 - e. What contrast is painted in this psalm between the Lord and created things? What truths from this psalm do you want to keep in mind today?
25. Day 25. *Read Psalm 122.*
- a. What is the psalmist glad about according to verse 1?
 - b. What does he rejoice in according to verses 2-5?
 - c. What prayer does the psalmist urge you to pray in verses 6-7?
 - d. What reason is given for praying this way in verses 8-9? How does this psalm broaden your prayers?
26. Day 26. *Read Psalm 123.*
- a. Where should you look for help according to verses 1-2?
 - b. How long should you look for help? See the end of verse 2.
 - c. What situation is described in verses 3-4?
 - d. Why would that situation prompt you to call upon the Lord?

- e. Where are you looking for help and hope today?

27. Day 27. Read Psalm 124.

- a. What would have happened if the Lord wasn't on Israel's side according to verses 1-5?
- b. What do verses 1-5 teach you about God?
- c. How does the Lord rescue in verses 6-7?
- d. What is the psalmist's heart response to the Lord in verse 6?
- e. What truths from this psalm do you want to take with you today?

28. Day 28. Read Psalm 125.

- a. What do you learn about those who trust in the Lord according to verse 1?
- b. What do you learn about the Lord from verse 2?
- c. What is another result of the Lord's favor from verse 3?
- d. What final request does the psalmist make of the Lord in verses 4-5?

- e. How can you apply the truths of this psalm to your life so that *you will not be moved*?

29. Day 29. *Read Psalm 126.*

- a. What situation is being described in verses 1-3?
- b. What was it like for the people to return to the promised land in verses 2-3?
- c. What principles about life with the Lord are seen in verses 4-6?
- d. How can those same principles encourage you to trust the Lord?

30. Day 30. *Read Psalm 127.*

- a. What do you learn about God in verse 1?
- b. Verse 2 gives more information to the statements in verse 1. What further aspects about God do you learn in verse 2?
- c. The psalm abruptly shifts to talking about the home, yet it still flows from the same theme as verses 1-2. How would the truths from verses 1-2 apply to homelife?
- d. What do you learn about children from verses 3-5?

- e. How can you live more dependently upon the Lord as this psalm teaches? What things hinder you from living dependently upon Him?

“Ours is not a life of anxious care, but of happy faith. Our heavenly Father will supply the wants of his own children, and he knoweth what we have need of before we ask him. We may therefore go to our beds at the proper hour, and not wear ourselves out by sitting up late to plot, and plan, and contrive. If we have learned to rely upon our God we shall not lie awake with fear gnawing at our hearts; but we shall leave our care with the Lord, our meditation of him shall be sweet, and he will give us sleep.” ~Charles Spurgeon¹

¹ C. H. Spurgeon, *[The Cheque Book of the Bank of Faith: Being Precious Promises Arranged for Daily Use with Brief Comments](#)* (New York: American Tract Society, 1893), 184.