January 10, 2020

**Psalm 19:1-11**

But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing. James 1:25 (ESV)

…since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; 1 Peter 1:23 (ESV)

And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. Deuteronomy 8:3 (ESV)

**Why Should I Take Time To Read The Bible?**

1. The law of the Lord is perfect. It revives my soul.

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;… Psalm 19:7 (ESV)

…since you have been born again,… through the living and abiding word of God; 1 Peter 1:23 (ESV)

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. John 17:17 (ESV)

1. The testimony of the Lord is sure. It makes wise the simple.

…the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; Psalm 19:7 (ESV)

We ask in the name of the monotheist God, Brahma, and God known by many names and many different faiths, Amen and Awomen. —Emanuel Clever opening prayer of the 117th congress

And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, 2 Peter 1:19 (ESV)

Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me. I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your testimonies are my meditation. Psalm 119:98–99 (ESV)

1. The precepts of the Lord are right. They bring joy to the heart.

The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;… Psalm 19:8 (ESV)

And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.   
1 John 1:4 (ESV)

Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart,… Jeremiah 15:16 (ESV)

In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches.   
Psalm 119:14 (ESV)

Your testimonies are my heritage forever, for they are the joy of my heart. Psalm 119:111 (ESV)

1. The commandment of the Lord is pure. It makes tough questions clear.

The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; Psalm 19:8 (ESV)

The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple. Psalm 119:130 (ESV)

1. The fear of the Lord is clean. It endures forever.

The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;…Psalm 19:9 (ESV)

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! Psalm 98:4 (ESV)

Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals! Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Psalm 150:3–6 (ESV)

Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.   
Mark 13:31 (ESV)

…since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; 1 Peter 1:23 (ESV)

1. The rules of the Lord are true. They are fair and right.

The rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether. Psalm 19:9 (ESV)

1. The Word of God is our greatest pleasure and our greatest possession.

More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. Psalm 19:10 (ESV)

How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Psalm 119:103 (ESV)

Therefore I love your commandments above gold, above fine gold.   
Psalm 119:127 (ESV)

1. The Word of God keeps us away from disaster and leads us to eternal reward.

Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. Psalm 19:11 (ESV)

Application

Will you join your church family in reading the book of Proverbs for the next three weeks?

* The reading plan is two chapters a day five days a week (Monday through Friday).
* Highlight what sticks out to you when you read.
* In your own words, write what was important to you from the chapters in two or three sentences in a notebook so you remember what you read.
* Check <https://www.facebook.com/CrossWindsSL> or your email at 7:00 AM on Wednesday mornings. Pastor Jordan and Kurt will reading and teaching for 10 minutes on Wednesday’s Bible passage.

Life Group Questions

1. What stood out in this message? What did you learn you didn’t know?
2. Read Psalm 19:7-11 which talks about what the Bible does in our lives. What result of Bible reading was most encouraging to you?
3. What do these verses teach us about reading the Bible in a way that is different from any other book? James 1:25, Micah 2:7, Colossians 3:16, 1 Peter 2:2
4. What do these verses teach us about the importance of reading the Bible in times of stress or depression? Psalm 119:28, Psalm 119:92, Psalm 119:71
5. Read Psalm 119:9-11. What do these verses teach us about the importance of not just reading the Bible but of memorizing important verses in the Bible? Would you (and your spouse if married) commit to memorizing one verse of your own choosing a week for the next month? Have the group share their favorite memory verses. What one do you like? If you need a suggested list of memory verses try <https://www.christ2rculture.com/ministryblog/files/fall2019memoryversecards.html>
6. What do these verses teach us about the importance of Bible reading? Psalm 119:105, Acts 20:32
7. Are you taking the CrossWinds Bible reading challenge? Will you commit to read two chapters of Proverbs five days a week for the next three weeks? I encourage you to join your church family!
   * + If you are a new Christian, I encourage you to use a version of the Bible called the New Living Translation. Talk to your Life Group leader or the church office if you need one.
     + If you would like an electronic Bible for your computer and mobile device, I recommend Logos Bible software. Logos Basic is free! It includes the New Living Translation. (<https://www.logos.com/basic>) Logos can set up Bible reading plans for you. We can also share the church Bible reading plan directly into your Logos Bible software by email. Once your Logos account is set up, contact the church office to let us know the email address you used in Logos and we will send you an email invite.