

Pillars of Christian Discipleship-

God's Word Clarifies Truth from Lies

Psalm 119:9-16

"God's Word keeps the truth clear, even when lies sound sweet."

1. The Example of the Psalmist

- a. He fills his mind with God's Word (*v 12, 15*)
- b. He finds joy in God's Word (*v 11, 14, 16*)
- c. He chooses to speak and act according to God's Word. (*v. 10, 11, 13*)

2. The Counter-Example – Temptation in Mind, Joy, Action (*Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-6; Hebrews 11:24-26, Matthew 6:24*)

3. God's Provision for us (*v. 10, 12*) (*John 1:1-4, 14-18, Hebrews 4:12*)

4. Application (*1 Cor 10:31, Psalm 119:103*)

- a. Fill our minds with God's Word and God's Truth.
- b. Trust God that there is greater joy to be found in His Word.
- c. In prayerful dependence, allow God's Word to shape our words and actions.

Small Group Questions:

Ice-Breakers:

1. What's the worst thing you've ever accidentally tasted that you definitely weren't supposed to eat or drink?
2. What food or drink did you *love* as a kid that you look back on now and think, "What was I thinking?"

Gospel:

1. How does Psalm 119 present God's Word as more than rules? What does this reveal about God's character and intentions for us?
2. How does the serpent's question in Genesis 3:1 subtly redefine truth—and why is that redefinition so dangerous?
3. Why do you think Scripture consistently portrays temptation as a **truth problem** before it becomes a **behavior problem**?
4. God's Word exposes lies we've already believed – how is that an act of grace rather than condemnation?
5. How does the Gospel answer that fear that obedience to God means missing out on something better?

Community:

1. In Psalm 119:13, the psalmist "proclaims" God's Word "with his lips." Why is truth meant to be spoken, not just privately held?
2. How does Christian community help us "keep the truth clear" when lies start to sound sweet? Why is isolation often fertile ground for believing subtle lies?
3. Adam was with Eve during her temptation, but said nothing (Gen. 3:6). How can a community unintentionally reinforce lies (not necessarily by speaking wrongly, but by failing to speak truth at the right moment)?
4. What are signs that a small group is helping one another delight in God's Word, not just comply with it?
5. What might change in our relationships if we consistently believed that God's Word is clearer and kinder than our own instincts?

Mission:

1. How can we model trust in God's Word for younger believers or children who are watching our choices?
2. What are some ways the "antifreeze illustration" applies to how our culture markets issues like fulfillment, identity, priorities, etc? How can/should we respond?
3. In what ways might silence like Adam's undermine our witness to the truth?

4. When serving someone costs you time or energy and no one sees it, how does God's Word keep you going?
5. How does the resurrection of Jesus anchor our mission and obedience in hope rather than in fear?