

Psalm 119:33-56

“He”

V: 33 The Psalmist's prayer - “Teach me” - instruct me in your ways.

Psalm 86:11 “Teach me Your way, O LORD; I will walk in Your truth; unite my heart to fear Your name.”

Psalm 119:18 “Open my eyes, that I may see wondrous things from Your law.”

- Teach me your way, and I will keep them - to the end.
- The Psalmist wants to learn, to be taught, he wants to keep God's ways - the things that God would teach him, and he's got a long view of things - he wants to keep them not just for the next few weeks or years, but to the end.

2 Timothy 4:6-8 “⁶For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.”

- Ending well is usually the result of having lived well.
- What are some of the essentials of a consistent life, that's been lived well and ends well? ³³⁻³⁴Learning - ³³⁻³⁵obeying - ³⁵⁻³⁶delighting - ³⁸⁻³⁹fearing - ⁴⁰longing
- It's implied here that if God would teach him His ways, then he would be able to keep His Statutes - so long as it depends on God and not on us.
- Our confidence is in His ability to keep us, nor our ability to keep me.

V: 34 Help me to understand it, and I'll keep it. Give me the wisdom to understand it.

James 1:5 “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.”

Proverbs 2:6 “For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth comes knowledge and understanding.” (From His mouth comes His Word.)

- I will observe it, keep it with my whole heart.
- Repeated sentiment: with my whole heart, a singularity of purpose.

V: 35 Make me, cause me, compel me, direct me to walk in the path of your commandments. He's describing obedience. (Inherent blessing)

Psalm 1:1-2 “¹Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; ²but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night.”

“For I delight in it.”

- Oh Lord, make me do what I delight to do!

V: 36 Incline my heart - please Lord do that work in me!

Psalm 111:2 “The works of the LORD are great, studied by all who have pleasure in them.”

“Incline my heart to your word, and not to covetousness.”

- Our hearts are naturally inclined towards covetousness, we need God’s help in this area.

1 John 2:15-17 “¹⁵Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶For all that is in the world - the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life - is not of the Father but is of the world. ¹⁷And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.”

- Keep me away from covetousness Lord.

V: 37 Turn away my eyes, help me to have the right focus, not to look at worthless, vain things. Similar to the “lust of the eyes...” that we just looked at. (no pun intended)

Jesus said:

Matthew 6:22-23 “²²The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. ²³But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!”

- We need to be careful what we look upon - some things we don’t have a choice, other things we do have a choice.

Matthew 18:8-9 “⁸If your hand or foot causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life lame or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet, to be cast into the everlasting fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire.”

- Revive me - breath new life into me.

Psalm 51:10-12 “¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right / steadfast spirit within me. ¹¹Do not cast me away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. ¹²Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me by Your free Spirit.”

- “... *Revive me in Your way*.” - also translated as “your Word.”

Another repeated prayer:

Vv: 25 “... *revive me according to Your Word*.”

- God’s Word is alive, and it breathes life into us!

V: 38 “Establish” - some translations render it “fulfill” Your Word in the sense of keep your word - which God always does.

Isaiah 40:8 “The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever.”

- Who is devoted to fearing you, reverencing you.

Psalm 112:1 “Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who delights greatly in His commandments.”

V: 39 Turn away my reproach:

Luke 6:22 “Blessed are you when men hate you, and when they exclude you, and revile / reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of Man’s sake.”

“*For Your judgments are good!*” God’s Word is good because He is good!

Psalm 19:9 “... The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.”

- Can I get an amen?

V: 40 I long for Your precepts: Help us, like the Psalmist to long for His precepts.

Psalm 42:1-2 “¹As the deer pants for the water brooks, so pants my soul for You, O God. ²My soul thirsts for God, for the living God...”

- Revive me (quicken) - 3rd time he’s made that request thus far, 11X’s in Psalm 119.
- That desire to be alive to the things of the Spirit, alive to the ways of God, longing after His precepts.

1 Peter 2:2 “As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby.”

“Waw”

V: 41 Be merciful to me, let your mercies flow upon my life - this is tantamount to asking God to be who He is, because He is a merciful God!

Deuteronomy 4:31 “For the LORD your God is a merciful God, He will not forsake you nor destroy you...”

“Your / His salvation according to Your / His Word:”

Acts 2:22-24 “²²Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know - ²³Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; ²⁴whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.”

V: 42 God’s Word gives us the answers we need for those who reproach us:

Proverbs 15:1 “A soft answer turns away wrath...”

- Our answers come from God’s Word.

1 Peter 3:15 “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give an answer to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear.”

V: 43 Please don’t take away or remove your word from my mouth, from my life.

Psalms 51:11 “Do not cast me away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.”

- God doesn’t take His Word away from us, typically we cast it aside, we discount it as we seek to live apart from God’s Word.
- If he took away His Word, He would be taking away our hope - and He won’t do that! God’s Word is our life line.

Psalms 130:5 “I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His Word I do hope.”

V: 44 Expressing his commitment to keep God’s Word.

V: 45 God’s Word is liberating:

Jesus said:

John 8:31-32 “³¹... if you abide in My Word (continue), you are My disciples indeed.
³²And you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.”

- Free from sin and death, free from the lies of the enemy, free in Christ Jesus.

V: 46 We're not to be ashamed of God's Word; and He'll give us the words to speak when it comes time.

Matthew 10:18-20 “¹⁸You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. ¹⁹But when they deliver you up, do no worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; ²⁰for it is not you who speaks, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.”

Romans 1:16 “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.”

2 Timothy 1:12 “For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that day.”

V: 47 Delighting in God's commandments, delighting in His Word - God would you make that so in all of our hearts!

Psalm 40:8 “I delight to do Your will, O my God, and Your law is within my heart.”

V: 48 The lifting up of the hands can be seen as an act of worship, an act of praise, or an act of surrender and or submission. It could be a gesture of reaching out.

Psalm 141:2 “Let my prayer be set before You as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.”

- He declares his love for God's commandments and is committed to meditating on His statutes.
- The basic Christian virtues are seen in those who live by God's Word:

1 Corinthians 13:13 “And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.” ⁴²Trust / **faith**. ⁴³**Hope** ^{47,48}**Love** (2x's - greatest)

“Zayin”

V: 49 “Remember the word to Your servant,” God never forgets His Word.

Psalm 138:2 "... for You have magnified Your word above all Your name."

Isaiah 49:15-16 "¹⁵Can a woman forget her nursing child, and not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely they may forget, yet I will not forget you. ¹⁶See, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands;..."

"Upon which You have caused me to hope."

1 Peter 1:3-5 "³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵who are kept by the power of God through faith..."

V: 50 This is my comfort in my affliction, in my / our "testing."

- He's called us to ministry
- He's said that He will take care of us and our children
- He's called us to build a house
- The resolve to do God's will in each of these areas was constantly being tested, and it was His word that was the basis for each of those moves which brought a sense of certainty & security where there would otherwise have been none.

Luke 9:62 & Romans 12:1, Isaiah 42:6,

Romans 15:4 "For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope."

- God's Word gives us comfort and hope, more importantly, it gives us life:

Romans 10:17 "So then, faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."

John 5:24 "Most assuredly (verily verily), I say to you, he who hears My Word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life."

John 6:63 "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life."

V: 51 The proud, meaning the wicked, have me in great derision, yet I do not turn aside from Your law.

Galatians 1:6-7 “⁶I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, ⁷which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.”

- There are those, the wicked who hold true believers in derision, and want to trouble us with a different gospel - which isn't the Gospel.

Galatians 1:8 “But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.”

V: 52 I remembered Your judgements of old, O Lord, and have comforted myself.

- Remembering the history, the record, the examples contained in God's Word.
- His past performance is a good indication of His future performance.

V: 53 Indignation / horror has taken hold of me because of the wicked, who forsake Your law.

- The indignation / horror of man is temporary:

Matthew 10:28 “And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both the soul and body in hell.”

V: 54 Your statutes have been my songs in the house of my pilgrimage.

“Your statutes have been my songs...”

Paul speaking of being filled with the Spirit:

Ephesians 5:19 “speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,”

Psalms 108:3 “I will praise You, O Lord, among the peoples, and I will sing praises to You among the nations.”

V: 55 I remember Your name in the night, O Lord, and I keep Your law.

- Studying through the names and titles of God is super encouraging!

V: 56 This has become mine, because I kept Your precepts, ownership.

Because He has placed God's Word in his heart:

Psalms 119:11 “Your Word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against you.”