

Ps. 119:1-8 HOW TO MAKE PROGRESS IN YOUR CHRISTIAN WALK

Interesting facts about this Psalm – besides that it's the longest chapter in the Bible.

1. It is an acrostic, of _____ stanzas, corresponding to the _____ letters of the Hebrew alphabet.
2. The Bible is referred to in at least 173 of the 176 verses (not 84, 90, 122) Some say only 122.
3. There are _____ different words used to describe the Bible.

V. 1-8: Aleph means “_____/strength”, and its pictograph is an ox. And then the first word in the NIV, which we're using for this study, is “blessed”. This word means “to be happy”, and comes from a root word that means “to go straight, to advance, to make progress.”

How can we make progress (be blessed) in our spiritual lives?

I. WE MUST BE/STAY _____ – how can we stay strong?

A. Make sure your plans are in harmony with God's _____ for you. (Joe Horton: “God, give me a dream and a common sense idea of what You want to do through my life.”)

v. 1 – “Our ways are blameless”. - Ways (course of life, the way you live, the “big picture” of your life), are blameless (living in accord with truth) “Blameless” does not mean sinless, but total devotion to the Lord.

B. Make sure your _____ life is in harmony with God's big picture plan for you. v. 1 - Walk (this is talking about “the small _____ things”.)

(Rick Warren, “Purpose Driven Life.”)

C. Pay attention to what you _____ about God – v. 2 “Keep” (guard, protect, watch over, observe, DO) His statutes (it means witness or testimony - what and who God is – His testimony of Himself)

D. Keep God _____ – v. 2 “Seek” (to seek with care, to study and worship) “Him with all their heart” (all your mind, will, emotions) The word “seek” can also mean “to _____ a place frequently” – the place of prayer, the place of connection with God.

E. Follow Christ's example – v. 3 Follow (the way you live) His ways (His course of life, His manner)

Ps. 103:7 God showed HIS WAYS to Moses

Our way is blameless if we walk according to _____ way!! Do others see Christ in us? Phil. 2 – live for others

F. Don't slack up! Obey with "_____"! v. 4 Fully obey (diligence, with force – it takes an effort!)

II. WE MUST PRAY FOR HELP – “O that” – an earnest desire

v. 5 - NLT – “oh that my actions would consistently reflect your decrees!”

A. Determine to _____ God – v. 5,6

1. v. 5- Steadfast (firmly established, stable, set up, settled (battle is won _____ the battle is begun), make up your mind ahead of time. Decide each day – with God's help I'm going to obey Him today!

2. v. 6 - Consider (regard, pay attention to, to look intently, to respect)

Lord, help me live so I won't be embarrassed when I look into Your Word – my life will be lining up with Your Word!

Yes, we ask for help – but we have a role/responsibilities, too!

III. DO YOUR _____ – v. 7,8

A. _____ – worship, give thanks

This can also mean to point (extended hands) – to point out to others what you're _____ about God.

B. Learn – to be taught, to be _____ - “Instruction” (structured training) in righteousness” – II Tim 3:16

“as I learn” a _____. The more we learn about God, the more we'll praise Him! Learning comes before praising.

C. Obey – do what you know to do!

IV. DEPEND ON GOD – v. 8 “do not forsake me” – don't abandon me, don't loosen your grip on me Don't leave me to myself!

CONCL. The Bible says (Heb. 12:26,27) there is coming a time of shaking everything that can be shaken – so that the things that can't be shaken will remain.

Ps. 16:8 - I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With Him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

