

SENIOR BIBLE FELLOWSHIP ASSIGNMENT: OCTOBER 14, 2025

Are you ready to begin our journey into Psalm 119? I am excited to be your guide... more so, because this is new to me as well. I caution you not to expect new and exciting things all the time, instead spend the time to meditate on the lessons by putting them into your faith walk and God will honor your obedience... he will bless you. I believe we will all get closer to God as we join this godly man as he prays to God.

I will do my due diligence to help us see the path to godliness, but I need your help. Please lace up your hiking boots and join us... if you just sit there, you will miss out. Like any journey, there are many things to see... no one can see everything. So, please share the insights God reveals to you, the whole group benefits... no comment is too little or insignificant.

At our last meeting, I gave a brief introduction to Psalm 119, kind of like the talk a guide gives before actually setting out. The bus is rolling to our first stop: Psalm 119:1 – 8, so grab your water, get out of the bus, and let's hit the trail.

I think you will find the questions are wordy, more than what you are used to seeing. I may abandon it later, but I think this may help us in our mindset. So please bear with me... we are trail blazing!

PSALM 119

- 1 Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord!
- 2 Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart,
- 3 who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways!
- 4 You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.
- 5 Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!
- 6 Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.
- 7 I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous rules.
- 8 I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me!

ASSIGNMENT:

Please read Psalm 119:1 – 8 and be prepared to discuss the following questions for our October 14th meeting.

QUESTIONS:

1. The psalmist begins the first two verses of this psalm with the word "blessed". He seems to be putting forth his thoughts on what he believes a blessed man is.

Before we go any further, let's take a closer look at this word "blessed". Most of you understand that English is not the original language of the Old Testament. The Old Testament was originally written in Hebrew. Instead of forcing all of us to become fluent in Hebrew, we are blessed to have scholars in the Hebrew language translate the Hebrew into English... hence our English translations like ESV, NIV, ASV, King James.

The reason I'm stopping and dwelling on this somewhat boring subject is to help us understand the psalmist's heart condition. Since there is not always a one for one match between Hebrew and English, there are times when the translators will choose an English word which may mislead the reader. The word "blessed" is one such word. The word "blessed" is foundational in understanding this psalmist and his prayer.

When you see the English word "blessed" in the Old Testament, it is translated from one of 2 Hebrew words, "Barak" or "Asre". Both describe blessings from God, but have different meanings. "Barak" blessings are more of a tangible/worldly benefit to the blessed. Things like a job, a house, property, health, and money. "Asre" blessings are more of an intangible or spiritual benefit. Things like peace, wisdom, and faith.

The first words of both verses 1 and 2 is "blessed" and are translated from the Hebrew word "asre". This man begins his psalm by making a statement on how he identifies a man who is "asre" blessed.

- 1a. In verses 1 – 3, what are some things which describe an "asre" blessed man?
2. Note that the first three verses are in 3rd person. The last 5 verses are in 1st or 2nd person. Which verses appeal to you more... why?
3. What are some things which you think the psalmist is asking God for in verses 5 – 8?
- 3a. What kinds of things do you tend to ask God for?
4. After reading these first 8 verses, are you beginning to see the relationship this man has with God? Does it seem like the relationship is vibrant or dull?