

Knowing God

?

**WHEN
HAVE BAD
DIRECTIONS
LED YOU
ASTRAY?**

The
POINT ➤

Our hearts are satisfied as we
encounter God through His Word.

➤ PSALM 119:17-24

¹⁷ Deal generously with your servant
so that I might live;
then I will keep your word.

¹⁸ Open my eyes so that I may contemplate
wondrous things from your instruction.

¹⁹ I am a resident alien on earth;
do not hide your commands from me.

²⁰ I am continually overcome
with longing for your judgments.

²¹ You rebuke the arrogant,
the ones under a curse,
who wander from your commands.

²² Take insult and contempt away from me,
for I have kept your decrees.

²³ Though princes sit together speaking against me,
your servant will think about your statutes;

²⁴ your decrees are my delight
and my counselors.



THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE

FACT:

The word north is derived from the ancient Indo-European language word “ner,” which means “left.” Orientation was established from facing the sun, and north is left.²



LEVELS OF BIBLICAL LEARNING // BIBLE

Through the Bible, we know God Himself, and we know how He expects us to live in order to follow Christ and experience His blessing.

Many of us have become quite dependent on GPS. And why not? GPS calls out directions as we need them, never requiring us to take our eyes off the road. This becomes all the more important when we're in an unfamiliar area or hazardous conditions.

One Canadian woman would disagree. She was in an unfamiliar area of Ontario on a dark and stormy night. When she drove down a boat launch into the Georgian Bay, she discovered her GPS may not have been as reliable as she thought. She did exactly as directed by her GPS, but the GPS was wrong. She came out of the frigid water just fine, but the same could not be said for her car.¹

Thankfully, we can always follow the direction the Bible gives without fail. It is always reliable and will never lead us astray. Psalm 119 teaches us a lot about the value of God's Word, and in this psalm we see how the Bible produces spiritual growth, equips us to face opposition, and gives us a reliable perspective to navigate life.

PSALM 119:17-18

1 What helps us hear God's voice above all the other distracting voices in this life?

2 What benefits have you experienced from studying God's Word?



*Living God's way
is not always
the easiest path,
but it is always
the best path.
#BSFLSpiritual
Disciplines*



PSALM 119:19-22

3 When have you felt like an outsider in this world?

4 Why is it important to rely on God's Word instead of people's opinions?

5 How can knowing God's Word help you deal with struggles?

PSALM 119:23-24

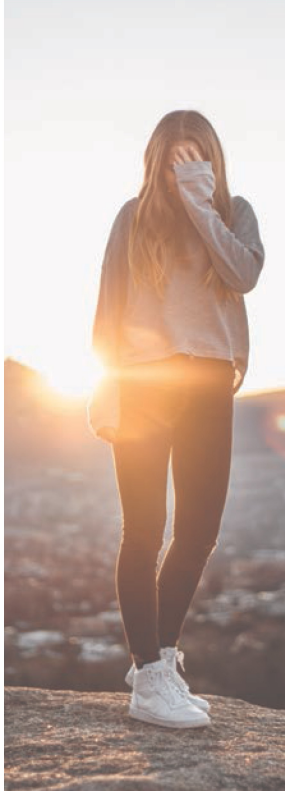
6 Why is the Bible a better guide for decision-making than the leaders of our current culture?

7 How has knowing God's Word shaped your faith?

8 How can you prioritize knowing God more through His Word?



LIVE IT OUT



GOD

JESUS

HOLY SPIRIT

BIBLE

SALVATION

CREATION

CHURCH

PEOPLE

FAMILY

COMMUNITY
& WORLD

LEVELS OF BIBLICAL LEARNING // BIBLE

Through the Bible, we know God Himself, and we know how He expects us to live in order to follow Christ and experience His blessing.

According to John 1:1-4, Jesus is the Word, who was with God and who is Himself God, since the very beginning. We have the privilege of knowing Jesus through the Word because He is the Word. As we spend time studying the Bible, we will come to know God more deeply as He reveals Himself to us. Further, we will come to see more and more clearly how He expects us to live. When we live for God, we put ourselves in the position that He will bless us. However, we need to understand that the greatest blessing we have is Jesus Himself.

> CHRIST

9 Read John 1:1-4. What does this say about Jesus?

To know someone deeply involves more than a simple “hey” here and there. It involves time together, sharing of ourselves, and listening to the thoughts of the other person.

Here are a few ways to get to know Jesus more intimately:

- > Read the Bible at least 15 minutes a day.
- > Study the Bible more deeply using Bible study resources.
- > Meditate on God’s Word.
- > Memorize specific verses—John 1:1-4 would be a great place to start.

10 What will you commit to this week?



> COMMUNITY

We're called to live out our relationship with Christ within the context of community. The church is the body of Christ on earth, and each of Jesus' followers is a part of that body.

11 How has the church helped you grow in your relationship with Christ?

12 In what areas of the church are you not plugged into that would help you grow spiritually?

13 How can you help others know Jesus more deeply by engaging in the life of the church?

> CULTURE

In our culture, people believe there are many ways to God. Some think we need only to believe He exists. Others think we need only to go to church and pray. Some believe it's all about being a good person. But the truth is the only way we can truly know God is through His Word. God has declared His existence through creation, but it's only through the Living Word that He has revealed Himself to us. To know God, we must pursue Him in His Word.

14 How do your friends believe they can know God?

15 How will you help a non-believing friend see that we can only truly know God through the Scriptures?