

Psalm 119 - Session 6: Verses 97 – 120

Matt Chandler

// Community Question

Tell about a time when you held down your child while they got a shot or had a medical procedure done.
What was going through your mind when your child cried out to you to make them stop?
What was probably going through your child's mind on why you did not make them stop?

// Scripture: Read Psalm 119:97-120

// Discussion Questions:

1. From this week's scripture, Matt explained three ways in which God's Word sustains us:
 1. **It offers clarity to our uncertainty. (A lamp and a light)**
When people are on life's path and can't find their way, what sources do they use to bring clarity or light to the situation? What does it look like to gain clarity by using God's word as a lamp for our feet and a light for our path?
 2. **It gives us hope in our suffering.**
Matt explains that David says he holds onto things in his life with an "open hand" because he knows God gives his children what is best for them. In what ways is this similar to holding down a child while they get a shot?
 3. **It cultivates joy rather than merely happiness.**
What did Matt say was the difference between happiness and joy?
What things do we turn to gain happiness?
What can we do to increase our joy?
2. Verse 98, *"Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies."*
Verse 100: *"I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts."*
There is an old adage: "Age and wisdom oft-times walk together; but sometimes age goes alone."
What are some things David suggests for us so that we can become wiser, not just older?
What "enemies" do we have today that we need to be wiser than?
3. *"Biblical knowledge without right relationship is empty, vain, and will almost always lead to beating others over the head rather than lovingly and compassionately engaging, encouraging and speaking life into the situation."*

Which comes first, Biblical knowledge or the right relationship with God? (Trick Question)

What can happen if you pursue one and not the other? How do we balance pursuing both simultaneously?

- ### // Challenge: Based on your current routines, what are some intentional ways Biblical knowledge and understanding? What could your desired intentional pursuit of understanding scripture look like and what is one step you can take toward that end state starting today?