

Psalms Sermon Series
Supports Session 2: God's Truth
Sermon Title: "Treasuring the Truth" (Psalm 119:1-16)

Connection to Session 2

Throughout Psalm 119, the author said that he "delights" in the word of God. The psalmist truly treasured God's Word, and as a result, it produced enjoyment of, obedience to, proclamation of, and meditation on God's truth.

Introduction/Opening

Buried treasure fascinates people to this day. The thought of uncovering something of immense value, something that could change the trajectory of one's life forever, drives people to search for lost treasure. For example, for hundreds of years, people have been searching for a supposed lost treasure on Oak Island. If found, the treasure could be life changing. While the possibility of discovering that treasure exists, we have been given a true treasure in God's Word that can drastically change the trajectory of our lives.

Outline

1. Treasuring the Truth of God's Word Produces Enjoyment (Ps. 119:1-2)

- a. There is a certain quality of life that is enjoyed by those who treasure God's Word—they are happy or blessed.
- b. Walking blamelessly before God leads to happiness. When God called Abraham, He charged him to walk blamelessly before him (Gen. 17:1). Paul charged the Philippians to be blameless amid a crooked generation (Phil. 2:15). Blameless living, being set apart from the world, begins with treasuring God's Word. When we do this, we enjoy a blessed life with God.
- c. In treasuring God's Word, we are actually treasuring and seeking God Himself (Ps. 119:2b). Just as we come to know others by communicating with them, God has made Himself available to know through His Word.

2. Treasuring the Truth of God's Word Produces Obedience (Ps. 119:3-11)

- a. The call to obedience is consistent throughout the Scriptures, but it is always founded upon the gracious call of God. It was after God redeemed His people from Egypt that He called them to obey His law (Ex. 19:4; 20:1ff).
- b. When we drift from obeying God's truth, it leads to shame (Ps. 119:5-6). Just like Adam and Eve, when we knowingly disobey God's commands, the remembrance of His Word often causes us to recoil in shame. Treasuring God's truth prevents shame.

- c. Remaining pure in a sinful world is difficult, but one way to pursue purity is through memorizing Scripture or hiding God's Word in our heart (v. 11, NIV). We memorize things that are valuable to us: addresses, phone numbers, passwords. If we value God's Word, we should take steps to memorize it.
- d. Ultimately, we hide God's Word in our heart so we do not sin against the One who saved us (v. 11). Our avoidance of sin and obedience to God is not driven by fear. But, it is driven by love and allegiance to the God who saved us from our sin through Christ.

3. Treasuring the Truth of God's Word Produces Proclamation (Ps. 119:12-14)

- a. We tend to talk about what we treasure in our hearts. In fact, it is out of the heart that the mouth speaks (Luke 6:45). What tends to occupy our speech? Do we talk more about sports, finances, or ourselves than God's truth in Christ?
- b. In order to teach anything, we must first learn the subject. In the same way, we must be taught by God's Word in humility before we can proclaim it to others (Ps 119:12)
- c. Paul is the perfect example of someone who was so changed by the truth of the gospel that he felt compelled to proclaim it. Paul wrote, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, first to the Jew, and also to the Greek" (Rom 1:16).
- d. We proclaim God's truth because of the joy we have in following Him (Ps 119:14). The gospel is the announcement of good news. While we must deliver the bad news that people are dead in their sin apart from Christ, the good news is that Jesus offers forgiveness and new life forever.

4. Treasuring the Truth of God's Word Produces Meditation (Ps. 119:15-16)

- a. In order to know, enjoy, obey, and proclaim God's Word, we must spend time thinking it over and applying it to our lives.
- b. Meditation implies an ongoing process of saturating our minds and hearts in God's Word. We must make time in our schedules to dwell on the Word of God, allowing it a prime place in our minds. Just as Jesus went away to spend time in prayer with God, we too must take time to spend with God and his Word (Mark 1:35).

Conclusion

Unlike the treasure of Oak Island, we have the treasure of God's truth right in front of us in the Scriptures. The question for us is, "Will we treasure it?" Each of us treasure something ultimately. The psalmist ultimately treasured God Himself, which led him to treasure God's Word. Do we love and treasure God and the salvation He has given us in Christ? If so, it should produce enjoyment, obedience, proclamation, and meditation in our lives. Let us be intentional to memorize and treasure up God's Word in our hearts.

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