

ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT

Hidden Treasure Psalm 119:9-16

Hidden Treasure

Psalm 119:9-11 (KJV) 9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. 10 With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. 11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

- The psalmist asks a powerful question that every young person and adult must ask ourselves; How can I keep myself morally pure?
 - The environment we live in and are raising our children in is saturated with sexual suggestions and opportunities
 - Biblical values regarding sex and marriage have overthrown by widely permissive culture and society
 - Whatever we have a steady diet of will eventually become a habit, a stronghold in our lives
 - How do break these habits? How do we cleanse our way?
 - We break "immoral habits" by replacing them with another, but *greater habit*
 - We break immoral thoughts and behaviors by the habit of *heeding to* or *obeying* the word of God (vs.9b)
 - There must be a conscious effort and commitment to obeying the Word of God
 - The Word of God is the foundation for moral purity, the Word of God will show us how to live holy
 - How do we heed the Word of God?
- 1. Dedication to the Word of God; 10 With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.**
- We must wholeheartedly seek God through His Word
 - We can't have "half-hearted" or "casual" commitment to the Bible and expect to live holy lives
 - Human nature is we start things with great interest and passion, but slowly drop off
 - The power to overcoming the temptations of this world are found in the Word of God
 - Dedication and commitment to the Word of God keeps us from wandering from godly living and into sin
- 2. Treasuring the Word of God, 11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.**
- We must *hide* the Word in our hearts
 - The word *hide* means to *store, layup hoard or treasure*
 - The Word of God is hidden in our hearts because it is a treasure, that's valuable
 - The Word is hidden in our *hearts* when it's received in our *minds*

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- The Word must go from our *head* to our *heart*
- When we hide the Word of God in our heart, we are committing it to memory, so that it will always be available, always accessible when we need it
- A heart devoted to memorizing the Word of God will steer away from sin
- Storing the Word God in our hearts will cleanse us of ungodly desires
- The Word of God changes our *outward* behaviors and *inward* desires
- When the Word of God is stored like valuable treasure in our hearts, we can access when need it
- The Word of God is our defense against sin

Teach Me Your Word

12 Blessed art thou, O LORD: teach me thy statutes.

- What you treasure, you want to learn more about
- The psalmist praised God for His Word and it's cleansing power
- God gave us pastors, teachers, prophets, evangelist, apostles to teach us the Word, but as believers we have a greater teacher living in us: The Holy Spirit
- Jesus said the Holy Spirit would teach us all things and guide us to all truth **John 14:26 (KJV) 26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. John 16:13 (KJV) 13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.**
- In addition to sound Bible teaching and preaching, only the Holy Spirit can instill God's Word in our hearts
- We should ask the Holy Spirit for help in teaching and understanding God's Word, pray the Word takes root in our hearts, and help us surrender to and obey God's Word

What will You Do with Your Hidden Treasure?

13 With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth. 14 I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as much as in all riches. 15 I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways. 16 I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word.

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- What are we to do with our hidden treasure?
- **Share the Word 13 With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth.**
 - The Word of God is to be hidden in our hearts, but we are not to keep it hidden
 - We are to share the Word of God with others
 - Our hearts should be so full of the Word of God that it works its way into our daily conversation **Luke 6:45 (KJV) 45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.**
 - If God's Word is truly in our hearts, we can't help but let it flow into the hearts and lives of others **1 Corinthians 3:6 (KJV) 6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.**
- **Rejoice and Obey the Word 14 I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as much as in all riches.**
 - The psalmist rejoiced over the Word like person that has great wealth
 - Obeying the Word leads to a righteous, abundant, peaceful, and eternal life
 - When we commit to rejoice in the Word, it is a commitment to faithfully follow the Word
- **Meditate on the Word 15 I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways.**
 - The psalmist also committed to mediate on the Word
 - To meditate is ponder, consider, contemplate, go over in one's mind
 - It is reflecting on the Word with the desire to *apply* it your life
- **Delight in and Never Neglect the Word 16 I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word.**
 - The psalmist promised to remain faithful to the Word
 - We must continue to treasure and not forget the Word
 - By not forgetting to the Word of God, you are saying, you will continue to live by the Word of God, continue you to honor God by living a pure life