

Psalms 1

~ Delighting in God's Word ~

Day 1 - Evening Prayer Prompt

~ Impossible yet possible ~

"Blessed is the man  
who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor stands in the way of sinners,  
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;" ~ Psalms 1:1

Lord, how am I walking in the counsel of the ungodly (influences of society, peer pressure, friends, myself)?

How is it possible to meditate day and night on God's Word? What must happen first according to:

"For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ," ~ 2 Corinthians 10:4-5

Meditating on God's Word day and night is only possible because of a supernatural weapon that is at our disposal to take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ. "The blessed man" who says no - because he has a pre-decided yes to delight in God's Word day and night - uses his God-provided weaponry to take every thought captive and destroy the enemy's bases of opposition in our minds and hearts where only intimate knowledge of Christ belongs.

As you go to sleep tonight, thank God that you have a pre-decided yes to delight in His Word and use the spiritual weapons provided for you in Christ. These weapons are mighty through God... mighty enough to overcome past habits of thinking that seem impossible to break.

(ACTS: Ask, Cry, Trust, Sing);

Day 2 ~ Morning prayer prompt ~ ACTS ~

~ Don't trade your delight for perfection in the flesh (natural human ability) ~

"But his delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and on his law he meditates day and night." ~ Psalms 1:2

Lord, what hinders my delight and meditation in your Word day and night  
(unconfessed sin, unbelief, feelings of condemnation, affliction, busyness of life, other  
priorities)?

If we attempt to meditate on and delight in God's Word with natural weapons, rather  
than supernatural, what would be the outcome? Can we control our thoughts and  
desires by will power alone?

"O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus  
Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. Let me ask you only this: Did you receive  
the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? Are you so foolish? Having  
begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?" ~ Galatians 3:1-3

No, we can't. If that was so we would not need the Savior from our sin and the gift of  
the Holy Spirit that came as a result of the work of Christ. Trying to be made perfect  
by the flesh rather than the Spirit leads to frustration in the delights of our heart after  
God's Word, disillusionment in our prayer life, and inconsistency in meditation. We  
will also experience a sense that we are disappointing God. But don't stop there -  
know that through the Spirit it is possible to meditate on His Word day and night,  
and He will lead you to orientating your priorities to do so. Set up your schedule  
around delighting in God's Word with you and your family and then let everything  
else be filled in after that.

Take thoughts - this morning - that are intruding upon an intimate knowledge of  
Jesus captive, and bring them to be submitted to the obedience that Jesus lived out  
perfectly on your behalf.

(ACTS: Ask, Cry, Trust, Sing);

Day 2 ~ Afternoon prayer prompt

~ Am I living with the mindset of true or false success? ~

“He is like a tree  
planted by streams of water  
that yields its fruit in its season,  
and its leaf does not wither.  
In all that he does, he prospers.  
The wicked are not so,  
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.” ~ Psalms 1:3-4

Lord, am I pursuing true success or false?

Lord, am I looking for success in the wrong way because I don't have a renewed  
mind in Your word?

In ways do I envy the wicked, forgetting that they are on the path of destruction both  
now and eternally?

What is true success?

How do we have success in whatever we do?

True success is not getting God to bless in heaven what we plan on earth, but for His will to be done on earth as it is already being done in heaven.

“Pray then like this:  
“Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.” ~ Matthew 6:9-10

We must daily renew our minds so that we are not melted down and squeezed into the image of the world, in order to know the good and acceptable and perfect will of God and pray accordingly.

“I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. ~ Rom. 12:1-2

When we do this, the Word of God will be inviting to us, and we will ask what we will, and it will be given us. That’s success from heaven that satisfies now...and does not fade away throughout all eternity.

“If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.” ~ John 15:7-8

(ACTS: Ask, Cry, Trust, Sing):

Day 2 ~ Evening prayer prompt

~ Where does my delight come from? ~

“ Therefore, the wicked shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous” ~ Psalms 1:5

Do I recognize the distinction that You make of me as Your beloved child, both now and before Your judgment seat someday?

Why do we delight in the Word of God in the inner man?

The why is in our miraculous salvation through faith in the finished work of Christ, because those who have turned from their own works, and put their trust in the finished work of Christ, are declared righteous and have had a change of desire at the core of the person.

In the following passage, who is righteous apart from faith in Christ? \_\_\_\_\_

In the following passage, what does the pathway look like for those who don't have faith in Christ for their righteousness? \_\_\_\_\_

“None is righteous, no, not one;

no one understands;

no one seeks for God.

All have turned aside; together they have become worthless;

no one does good,

not even one.”

“Their throat is an open grave;

they use their tongues to deceive.”

“The venom of asps is under their lips.”

“Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness.”

“Their feet are swift to shed blood;

in their paths are ruin and misery,  
and the way of peace they have not known.”  
“There is no fear of God before their eyes.”

Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the Law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it — the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,” Romans 3:10-24

“The desire of the righteous is only good” ~ Proverbs 11:23

For those who are made righteous by faith, are the desires at the core of their person good or bad? \_\_\_\_\_

If good, then why? \_\_\_\_\_

If bad, then why? \_\_\_\_\_

“For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man” ~ Romans 7:22

For further study, read all of Romans 7 and 8.

Note: the desires of the believer’s inner man have been transformed. Yet the key to how to walk out these desires is found in the walk of the Spirit described in Romans 8.

As you go to sleep tonight, thank God for why you have had a heart change!

(ACTS: Ask, Cry, Trust, Sing);

Day 3 ~ Morning prayer prompt ~

~ How do I delight in God's Word day and night ~

"For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the ungodly shall perish." ~ Psalms 1:6

Am I operating in the joy of knowing You intimately, and thankful You are watching all of my ways to reward me? In what ways have I viewed You as aloof?

Am I conscious that the reason You know my way is because I am in You, Jesus, and you have walked them ahead of time before me? How do we delight in God's Word?

How we delight in God's Word is by being led by the Spirit and beholding Christ with unveiled faces in Scripture, resulting in transformation from one degree of glory to another. Many Christians remain confused about how to walk in the Spirit for many years. Even though they know that God has given them a change of desire in their heart to do what is right, they are frustrated with how they are supposed to carry that out in day-to-day life. As you read the passage below, ask "the Lord, the Spirit" (2 Cor. 3:17) to open the eyes of your heart, to see how the Spirit of adoption is sufficient to put to death the deeds of the flesh and overcome fear and bondage. "But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you. So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" ~ Romans 8:10-15

We will talk more about the above passage this year. It is going to be critical to understand the walk of the Spirit in order to pray through Psalms in a Spirit-filled way. We are going to learn how to cry out to God for everything we need... Truly, it is the Spirit of adoption crying out inside of us, "Abba, Father".

Prepare your heart for this afternoon - we will see how the Spirit of adoption is crying out within us, asking God for the nations to be Jesus's inheritance.

