

A video introduction is available. View it at https://watch.liberty.edu/media/1_02laxnxu

1. Motivate

When have you heard of bad directions or instructions leading someone astray?

2. Transition

Misdirection can be very serious.

- It's important to know the right way to go.
- We will know the right way as we encounter God and His direction through His Word.

3. Bible Study

3.1 Encountering God through Scripture

Listen for prayer requests.

Psalm 119:17-18 (NIV) Do good to your servant, and I will live; I will obey your word. 18 Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.

What is the request in verse 17 and why does the psalmist desire that the Lord respond to it?

What is the earnest request in verse 18?

Why did the psalmist consider that to be an important request for God to answer?

What words suggest the psalmist did not see reading God's Word as a labor but a delight?

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

When has God opened your eyes to reveal Himself to you in a fresh way through His Word?

3.2 God's Word Helps Us Face Opposition

Listen for how to face opposition.

Psalm 119:19-22 (NIV) I am a stranger on earth; do not hide your commands from me. 20 My soul is consumed with longing for your laws at all times. 21 You rebuke the arrogant, who are cursed and who stray from your commands. 22 Remove from me scorn and contempt, for I keep your statutes.

What appeal did he make of the Lord?

How did the psalmist describe himself in relationship to his living in this world?

On what basis did the psalmist ask God's intervention in removing reproach and contempt.

Who are the proud, the arrogant?

What is God's disposition toward the proud?

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

How might being exposed to more of the Lord's Word help the psalmist (and you) live as a stranger in the earth?

What was the psalmist's overwhelming desire concerning the judgments of the Lord?

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Knowing God

3.3 God's Word Gives God's Perspective

Listen for God's perspective.

Psalm 119:23-24 (NIV) Though rulers sit together and slander me, your servant will meditate on your decrees. 24 Your statutes are my delight; they are my counselors.

How did he respond to those who slandered him? What did the psalmist say the Lord's Word was for him during his challenging times?

What challenges do we face in bringing God's perspective to bear in our lives?

What role should God's Word play in our lives?

What strategies have helped you meditate on God's Word?

Application

Read the Bible.

- If you're not spending time in *God's Word*, start here and now.
- Spend at least fifteen minutes every day reading *God's Word*.

Study the Bible.

- Choose a book of the Bible and spend time studying its message.
- Your pastor or group leader can recommend a commentary or study helps to assist you in your study.

Meditate on *God's Word*.

- Turn off the TV, computer, and smartphone and spend uninterrupted time meditating on *God's Word*.
- Journal your thoughts and observations.

Fallen Phrases Puzzle

E B N M

O O D H E U C A C W E K L O

I H O E L S O M T L I H G G T O E O W N M O

H I K H U T R G O I T D N E L I R N A T E W G F D

W E T C N U W S N B T N I M A E D K E L N Y D L I E E



It's been so cold, the letters fell off this secret message from our consulate in Rkeynew. Help us out, please, all our clerks are busy watching HGTV reruns. Look for single letter columns or rows where there are only two or three letter words. Figure out what letters in those columns make sensible words. Watch for squares with punctuation ... no letters there. Have your church librarian forward the message to the local office of the FBI. If you get stuck, our attaché has posted help at <https://tinyurl.com/yxsk4acq>.

Further family intrigue is also available