"TURNING FROM WORTHLESSNESS TO WISDOM" PSALM 119:33-48 (STANZAS 5-6)

Because God teaches us the way of life through His Word, let us learn to walk in His Word

- 5. He': Turning from worthlessness to be taught the Word (vv. 33-40). In this fifth stanza, the psalmist teaches us to pray through our weakness as we learn to walk in God's ways. First, verses 33-36 depicts God as our Teacher who gives understanding (v. 34) to walk in His ways (v. 35) and away from the emptiness of selfishness (v. 36). The psalmist continues to pray in verses 37-40 petitioning God to turn him away from worthlessness that he would have life by integrating his ways to God's Word. As we look to live out this passage, we remember that as disciples we are students who are lifelong learners of God's ways.
- 6. Waw: Loving the Word of God because of our loving God (vv. 41-48). In this sixth stanza, the psalmist shows our need for God's love and our proper response by loving His Word. First, verses 41-44 remind us that only God's steadfast love can save us from our troubles and the taunts of others. In response to being saved by God's steadfast love, the psalmist cannot help but respond in verses 45-48 by obeying God's Word (v. 45) and witnessing to God's works (v. 46) because of his love for God's Word (vv. 47-48). As we live out this passage, the psalmist teaches that as we walk in the Word (v. 44), we cannot help but be a witness in the world (v. 46).

APPLYING THE WORD

The LORD teaches us His Word so that we would walk in His ways (vv. 33-36)

- Like the psalmist, why is it critical for us to view God not only as our Savior but also our Teacher (vv. 33-36)? How does Psalm 119 helped you to answer this discipleship question? **The LORD turns us from worthlessness to give us life in His ways (vv. 37-40)**
- What worthless things are you tempted to be distracted by from pursuing God's ways (v. 37)?
- As the psalmist asks God for help in each verse, how can these verses shape your prayer life?

God's love is shown in saving us according to His Word (vv. 41-44)

- Like the psalmist, how do the pressures of this life push you toward God (vv. 41-44)? **Our love for God is revealed in our love for His Word (vv. 45-48)**
- How is delighting in God's Word a necessary ingredient in being a faithful witness (vv. 46-47)?
- How does God's steadfast love and salvation (v. 41) move you to love His Word (vv. 47-48)?

WALKING IN THE WORD THIS WEEK

| 5. He' (vv. 33-40) | |
|--------------------|--|
| Prayer | Lord, let me delight in your Word rather than the world (1 Jn 2:15-17). |
| Practice | Turn each verse in this stanza into your own prayers for help this week. |
| | (W (41 49) |
| 6. Waw (vv. 41-48) | |
| Prayer | Lord, let the pressures of this world push me toward you (Heb 13:8). |
| Practice | Rehearse God's steadfast love toward you to love God's Word more. |