



**“Your Word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.”**  
-Psalm 119:105

Psalm 119 is a good place to start out the new year. It's the longest chapter in the Bible; however, what makes it so impactful is not the length, but the content. All 176 verses emphasize the glory and greatness of Scripture. Philip Henry, the father of Matthew Henry, said to his children, "... these verses will bring you to be in love with all the rest of the Scripture." It's no wonder that he (Matthew) became one of the world's most astounding Bible commentators in the 18th century.

Charles Spurgeon described the 22 sections of this chapter as a "strand of pearls." Throughout its entirety, we are told of the value and power of God's Word in our lives. We can find truths such as, "Blessed are those whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the Lord. Blessed are those who keep His statutes and seek Him with all their heart – they do no wrong, but follow His ways." (119:1-2) Let us be mindful of the secret hid in plain sight in these two verses. We must "walk according to His law" and "follow His ways."

The psalmist elaborates on this key ingredient in the next few verses: "You have laid down precepts that are to be fully obeyed. Oh, that my ways were steadfast in obeying your decrees... I will obey your decrees..." (119:4-5,8). I have been told before in my walk with Him that "my knowledge far outweighs my obedience." It is good to know the Word, but it is better to know the God who authored it. Jesus revealed to his disciples in John 14:23 that "Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me."

Psalm 119 has a theme that concentrates on the glory and greatness of Scripture, but always in connection with God Himself. The blessing that I receive in studying His Word and following His decrees is knowing Him. I uncover His great love for me and in return, a desire to love Him wells up within me. He is the treasure to my soul. And because I love Him, I will obey Him. Verse 67 shines bright for me: "Before I was afflicted, I went astray, but now I obey your Word."

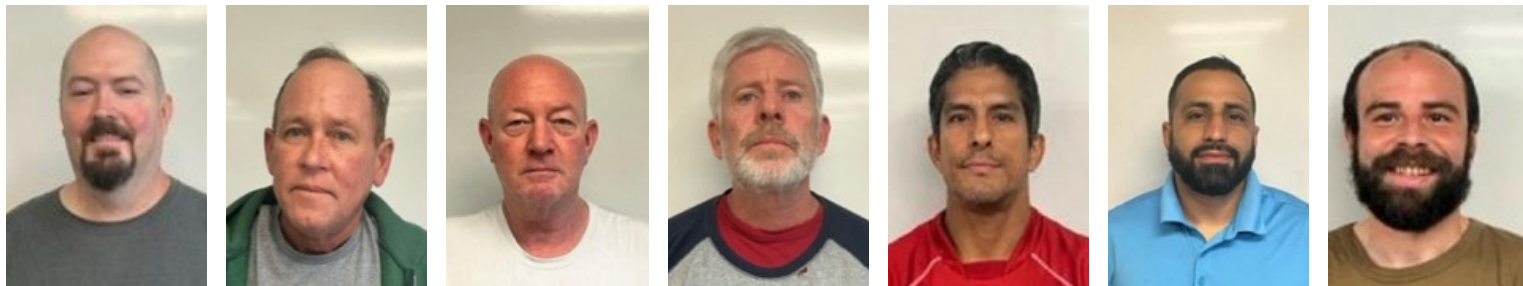
My hope and prayer is that we (His true believers) fall in love with His Word, but more importantly, we fall in love with Him, deeper and deeper still. Listen to the psalmist's prayer, beginning from verse 132: "Turn to me and have mercy on me, as you always do to those who love your name. Direct my steps according to your Word... Make your face shine on your servant and teach me your decrees. Streams of tears flow from my eyes, for your Law is not obeyed."

Let us all, by His grace, have a heart that is set on keeping His decrees to the very end.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nick Reynolds".

Nick

**“I seek you with all my heart; do not let me  
stray from your commands.”** Psalm 119:10



**Graduation December 17th, 2023**



We would also like to thank and acknowledge  
Publix Charities for their continued support.



## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Graduation Ceremony  
and Baptism  
February 18 and 25**

**62nd Annual Homecoming  
March 8-10  
Sign up at [Dunklin.org/events](https://Dunklin.org/events)**

**Regeneration Program  
Leadership Gathering  
March 6-8**