

There are many methods of Bible study, and all are beneficial if done properly. Word studies have become one of my favorite ways to study the Bible. Through these studies, I have learned where many scriptures are found, and their context. One thing I enjoy is the diversity of the study itself. There are many ways to do a word study and the extent is left to the individual. Are you familiar with word studies? If not, at first it can seem confusing because of the steps that need to be taken. But as with all things, with practice and repetition it will get easier. Allow yourself time to get familiar with it. As with any study, if you persevere, you will reap the benefits of knowing God and His Word.

Watch the Psalm 119 devotionals on YouTube!

Search Armored in Truth with Karry Irizarry; from the home page click on playlists, then click on Psalm 119.

This is a series of devotionals discussing each word being studied.

The first thing you will see in this psalm is God's Word expressed in eight different ways in the first nine verses. The following is the first verse the expression is found and the definition of each word. The number in parenthesis is how many times it is used in the Psalm. Each word is defined according to its Hebrew and Webster's English definitions. Then an explanation of the word is given. The verse is then broken down according to the example given in the introduction.

You will be asked to read through the psalm a total of nine times. One time for each of these words, and one time to answer the questions given at the end of this study. This is reading with a purpose. This helps you keep focused while looking for a particular word. I would encourage you not to skim through the psalm but rather to read each verse. This helps you become familiar with the psalm which is needed for better study and meditation.

- **Law (25)** – Psalm 119:1, Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD.

Hebrew – The word law comes from Torah which is the first five books of the Bible. Also known as the Pentateuch.

Webster's defines law as

- * the revelation of the will of God set forth in the Old Testament
- * the first part of the Jewish scriptures: **Pentateuch Torah**
- * a binding custom or practice of a community: a rule of conduct or action prescribed or formally recognized as binding or enforced by a controlling authority

Even though you do not live under the strict guidance of the law anymore, meaning you don't have to make sacrifices and follow rules to be forgiven and cleansed, God's law is still important. The whole intent of the law was so man could understand he could not live up to the standards of a holy God. God's desire is for you to love and obey Him. This is only done through following God's Word. The law set forth guidelines to do this and told of consequences if it wasn't followed. Today, even though the law of works has been destroyed by the death of Jesus, it is still God's desire that you love and obey Him, and you will reap the consequences if you don't. According to this verse a person is blessed when they choose to walk according to God's law.

Psalm 119:1 – Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD.

- ^H *Blessed* – happy
- ^H *Undefiled* – integrity; truth; complete, someone who is doing their best to live morally; not having habitual sin in their life
- ^H *Walk* – conversation; manner of life, behavior

Explanation

Who are blessed? The undefiled.

What do the undefiled do? They walk in the law of the LORD.

You will be the happiest if you walk in truth; not just being truthful, though this is important, but choosing to walk in God's law. People who walk in God's law understand God's rules to be the final authority on how they should direct their lives.

Application – Do I have habitual sin in my life? What are some ways I can be obedient so sin will not be a way of life.

Read through Psalm 119 and write down each verse reference you find the word 'law'.

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

- **Testimonies (22)** – Psalm 119:2, Blessed are they that keep His testimonies, and that seek Him with the whole heart.

Hebrew – Witness

Webster's defines testimonies as

- * declaration of a witness

God's testimonies are a witness to who He is. His Word reveals his character, and His Word is testimony to this. The most prominent character of God is that He does not change. Malachi 3:6 says, "For I am the Lord, I change not" ... What God says will be. God bestows His blessings on those who keep His testimonies. When we keep His Word, our lives become testimonies of God's faithfulness, goodness, and love.

Psalm 119:2 – Blessed are they that keep His testimonies, and that seek Him with the whole heart.

- H *Blessed* – happy
- H *Keep* – to guard; protect; maintain; obey
- H *Seek* – follow; ask; worship; diligently inquire
- H *Heart* – the center of a persons feelings, will, and emotions

Explanation

Who is blessed? Those who keep His testimonies.

What do the blessed do? They seek Him with their whole heart.

You are blessed if you keep His testimonies. Keep them by guarding them. Don't let the things of the world get in the way of you obeying the LORD. Continue to seek after them. Read and study His Word, ask mature believers questions, be guided by His testimonies and not your feelings.

Application – Am I a good witness of God and who He is? How can I improve on this? Is there anything that distracts me from keeping and seeking His Word?

Read through Psalm 119 and write down each verse reference you find the word 'testimonies'.

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

In this next section the question “What should I do with God’s Word?” will be answered. Many times, people don’t know where to start or what to do. The Bible is not a checklist of dos and don’ts. The only way you can learn to follow God is by knowing what His Word says. Allow the Holy Spirit to work in you as you learn by submitting to Him in obedience.

This section has 22 words that will answer this question. Follow the examples given in the introduction in section 1 to break down each verse. It is my hope that I have provided enough space within the book for you to do this.

The Hebrew and English definition of the word is already given.

Step 1 – write out the verse then underline any word you want to learn or better understand.

Step 2 – Using a concordance, look up the Hebrew definition of each underlined word. Sometimes to understand the Hebrew definition, you will have to look at the Webster’s also. This will give you better understanding of the Biblical meaning.

Step 3 – write an explanation of what each verse is saying. Your explanation should be within the context of the verse, not your own thoughts. Start with asking a couple of questions that can be answered within the verse.

Step 4 – Write an application. First ask a couple of questions regarding the verse and yourself, then write the answer.

Some of the words have more than one Hebrew number, meaning for that particular word there will be different definitions. (i.e., h1980 and h3212 for walk). The verses are already categorized under the right definition. Webster’s definition will be under the last verse given.

- **Awe**

verse 161

^H to be startled; hence to fear in general, stand in awe, be in fear

D a strong feeling of fear or respect and also wonder inspired by authority

- **Behold**

verse 18

^H to scan, that is look intently at; regard with pleasure, favor, or care, consider, have respect

- **Behold**

verse 40

H lo! behold; see

D to look at something; to perceive through sight or understanding

Beneficial – to be advantageous; helpful; helpful in the meeting of needs; to do good; be of service

verse 9

D to purify; to make clean; to remove filth; or a foul matter of any kind

- **Comforts**

verse 50

verse 52

verse 76

^H to pity, console, to be sorry, to ease

D support; consolation under calamity, distress or danger; to strengthen; to invigorate; to cheer or enliven

v50_

v52

v76

Questions

Following are 2 questions each for the 176 verses. These are basic questions, much like the ones asked in the explanation part of the word study in the previous sections. For the most part the answers will be within the verse itself, but for a few, the answer will be in the previous verse. Asking even the simplest questions will help you discern what the verse is saying and writing the answers will help you remember what the verse is about. In some incidences it may seem like the question is being repeated. This is okay! One of the best ways to learn is through repetition. Many times, when just reading, a lot of information may not be retained, but slowing down to ask questions helps you learn and understand. In certain questions there will be a word underlined. These words are in a glossary section following the questions. These definitions give a clear, more precise meaning which will help you answer the question and understand the verse more fully.

Verse 1

Who are the blessed?

How are they blessed?

Verse 2

I will be blessed if I keep what?

To be blessed, how should I seek Him?

Verse 3

Who does no iniquity (habitual sin)?

In whose way should I walk?

Verse 4

What am I commanded to do?

How should I do it?

Verse 5

What should be directed?

What should I keep?

Verse 6

What should I not be ashamed of?

What should I have toward God's commandments?

Verse 7

How should I praise God?

What will give me a desire to praise God?

Verse 8

What should I keep?

Why will I never be forsaken utterly?

Verse 9

How do I cleanse my ways?

How should I take heed?
