

Today's Message: **PSALM 119—INTRO**

*Psalm 119:1-8*

Pastor Gary L. Stump

God took me on a journey that made me a Bible guy:

- Received my Bible from my Godparents in 1967
- Pete John taught me to be a Bible guy
- *1 John 5:11–12 (NKJV) And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. <sup>12</sup> He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.*
- Operation Timothy...Memorizing Scripture

### **Gary's Life Verse**

*2 Timothy 3:16–17 (NKJV) All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

### **Donna's death**

*Romans 8:28 (NKJV) And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.*

*Exodus 16:6b–7a (NKJV) "At evening you shall know that the LORD has brought you out of the land of Egypt. <sup>7</sup> And in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD"*

### **Charles Stanley—"How We Profit from Suffering"**

*1 Peter 5:10 (NLT) In his kindness God called you to share in his eternal glory by means of Christ Jesus. So after you have suffered a little while, he will restore, support, and strengthen you, and he will place you on a firm foundation.*

*James 1:2, 5 (NKJV) My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials...<sup>5</sup> If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.*

NOTE Listen to this message: **Charles Stanley: How We Profit from Suffering** <https://www.oneplace.com/ministries/in-touch/listen/how-we-profit-from-suffering-part-1-595562.html>

### **Hardee's experience**

*Song of Solomon 4:9 (NKJV) You have ravished my heart, My sister, my spouse; You have ravished my heart With one look of your eyes, With one link of your necklace.*

"I quit studying the Bible to know the Bible, and I began to study the Bible to know the Author!"

–Pastor Gary

**Brother Andrew** in God's Smuggler (p. 65), "If I were going to give my life as a servant of the king, I had to know that king. What was he like? In what way could I trust him?"

## Graham's Injury

*Isaiah 40:31 (NKJV) But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.*

**No compromise:** "I'm too old to play church!" –Pastor Gary

**Frederick Douglass**, "I am in earnest—I will not equivocate—I will not excuse—I will not retreat a single inch—and I will be heard."

*Psalm 119:160a (NKJV) The entirety of Your word is truth*

**Don't we all want to know God intimately?** How are we doing?

**Barna Research:** Although 65% of Americans describe themselves as "Christian," only 6% hold a Biblical worldview.

But what about people who identify as Bible-believing Christians? \*

Agree	
30%	"Jesus was a great teacher, but he was not God"
65%	"Jesus is the first and greatest being created by God."
46%	"Holy Spirit is a force but is not a personal being."
42%	"God accepts the worship of all religions, including Christianity, Judaism, and Islam"
39%	"God will always reward true faith with material blessings in this life."
48%	"The Bible, like all sacred writings, contains helpful accounts of ancient myths but is not literally true."

\* The State of American Theology survey by Ligonier Ministries and LifeWay Research

Christian Ignorance of the Bible...what is the solution?

Digging into God's truth...before you have the trials!

**PSALM 119** Extremely practical; instructive; inspiring; enumerates the benefits of knowing God's word

William Wilberforce, the statesman who was converted in the Wesleyan movement, wrote in his diary, "Walked from Hyde Park corner, repeating the 119th Psalm in great comfort." (J. Vernon McGee)

Psalm 119 was written by David around 1000 BCE

## David's Bible

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy  
Job, Joshua, Judges, Ruth

David speaks of his copy of the Scriptures. Kings of Israel were instructed to have their own copy of the scrolls of the Torah.

*Deuteronomy 17:14–20 (NLT) "You are about to enter the land the LORD your God is giving you. When you take it over and settle there, you may think, 'We should select a king to rule over us like the other nations around us.'<sup>15</sup> If this happens, be sure to select as king the man the LORD your God chooses. You must appoint a fellow Israelite; he may not be a foreigner.<sup>16</sup> "The king must not build up a large stable of horses for himself or send his people to Egypt to buy horses, for the LORD has told you, 'You must never return to Egypt.'<sup>17</sup> The king must not take many*

wives for himself, because they will turn his heart away from the LORD. And he must not accumulate large amounts of wealth in silver and gold for himself. <sup>18</sup> “When he sits on the throne as king, he must copy for himself this body of instruction on a scroll in the presence of the Levitical priests. <sup>19</sup> He must always keep that copy with him and read it daily as long as he lives. That way he will learn to fear the LORD his God by obeying all the terms of these instructions and decrees. <sup>20</sup> This regular reading will prevent him from becoming proud and acting as if he is above his fellow citizens. It will also prevent him from turning away from these commands in the smallest way. And it will ensure that he and his descendants will reign for many generations in Israel.

### **What are the benefits of God’s word?**

*Psalm 119:1–8 (NLT) Joyful are people of integrity, who follow the instructions of the LORD. <sup>2</sup> Joyful are those who obey his laws and search for him with all their hearts. <sup>3</sup> They do not compromise with evil, and they walk only in his paths. <sup>4</sup> You have charged us to keep your commandments carefully. <sup>5</sup> Oh, that my actions would consistently reflect your decrees! <sup>6</sup> Then I will not be ashamed when I compare my life with your commands. <sup>7</sup> As I learn your righteous regulations, I will thank you by living as I should! <sup>8</sup> I will obey your decrees. Please don’t give up on me!*

### **SO WHAT?**

Do you want to be joyful? (Joyful means “full of joy”)

*Psalm 119:1–2 (NLT) Joyful are people of integrity, who follow the instructions of the LORD. <sup>2</sup> Joyful are those who obey his laws and search for him with all their hearts.*

Do you want to be free from shame and guilt?

*Psalm 119:5-6 (NLT) Oh, that my actions would consistently reflect your decrees! <sup>6</sup> Then I will not be ashamed when I compare my life with your commands.*

Does your obedience thank God for His loving kindness and grace?

*Psalm 119:7 (NLT) As I learn your righteous regulations, I will thank you by living as I should!*

Are you making progress in your obedience to God’s word? In what ways?

*Psalm 119:8 (NLT) I will obey your decrees. Please don’t give up on me!*

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## [ONWARD CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2022](#)

**1. LADIES BIBLE STUDY BEGINS WEDNESDAY, JAN. 11**—9:30am at Kathy Stump's house (12928 Whitehaven Lane, Fishers; 131<sup>st</sup> & Cumberland). Studying the book of Hebrews. Hebrews study guide \$10. See Laurie Abell (317-432-6851) or Kathy Stump (317-292-7632) for more details.

**2. LIVESTREAM ON FACEBOOK LIVE**—We will continue to livestream our service on Pastor Gary's Facebook Live and it will be available on our website ([www.onwardchurch.org](http://www.onwardchurch.org)) and our YouTube channel (see below for link)

**Gary's FACEBOOK LIVE link:** <https://www.facebook.com/gary.stump.3>

**Onward Church YouTube Channel:** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSHetYKQbsv3tYGbNtwgnQg>

**3. ONWARD BOWLING TEAMS FORMING**—New season starts now.

- TIME: Wednesday January 12 at 7:00 PM
  - LOCATION: Pinheads Entertainment Center
  - COST: \$14/player for 3 games
  - GAME TYPE: 9-pin No-tap Handicap League
- See Pat Weber for more info: [Weberpat43@gmail.com](mailto:Weberpat43@gmail.com) 941-544-5420

**4. YOUTH GROUP TONIGHT**—6-8pm at Jon & Shannon Harris' (16369 Drayton Way, Fortville).

**5. FEBRUARY 26-27 2022 ONWARD MARRIAGE RETREAT** at Brown County Inn, Nashville, IN.

Theme: *Experiencing Biblical Sabbath within your Marriage*. Speaker: Matthew A. Vander Wiele, Ed. D.

Call **812-988-2291** to reserve your room This is the only cost to you (Double Queen - \$100.00 plus tax; King - \$110.00 plus tax) – reserve under **ONWARD MARRIAGE RETREAT PROMO CODE 0270**

**6. 2022 ONWARD TO JERUSALEM BIBLE STUDY TOUR—OCTOBER 18-29, 2022.** Cost of the tour will be approximately \$3,800 per person (double occupancy). A deposit of \$500 will hold your spot. For more information, please write Pastor Gary at [gary@garystump.org](mailto:gary@garystump.org).

**7. "BIBLE ANSWER MAN"**—Beginning next week we will have a segment in the service where we answer your Bible questions. If you have a particular Bible question, write it on the back of your Prayer Card and we will try to answer them beginning next Sunday.