

Connecting Church and Home

Quarter 3, Week 13 :: **Oh How I Love Your Law**

Treasure Story: Psalm 119:97-104

What if you went to school thinking, "I'm wiser than my teachers"? With a mindset like that, you might not make it very far in school. Our understanding of school subjects comes from books and studying, but the teachers drive us toward that understanding. They make the content easier to understand when it doesn't seem clear from our readings. Yet the psalmist who wrote Psalm 119 tells his audience that he indeed is wiser than even his teachers because of God.

Connect

"There is more wisdom in the testimonies of the Lord than in all the teachings of men if they were all gathered into one vast library. The one book outweighs all the rest."

– C. H. Spurgeon, *The Treasury of David*, pg. 331

In Psalm 119, the psalmist declares his love for God's Law. It is one thing to tell of your love, but it is quite another to live out that love. Because of his love for God's commands, he proclaims that he is wiser than his teachers and elders. He is not discounting their knowledge or love of the Law, but rather he is giving glory to God for his wisdom. To the psalmist, the words of the Law are sweeter than honey and their sweetness drives his declaration of wisdom. The sweetness of God's Word has even helped the psalmist turn from evil.

In 1 Corinthians 1:22-25, the Apostle Paul tells us that Jesus is wisdom for us. When we trust Christ and obey him, his Word becomes sweet as honey to us. Use the ideas below to help your children think about the wisdom and sweetness of God's Word.

- **Observe Your Teachers:** Sit down with your children and talk to them about school. Encourage them to think about all the classes their teachers had to take in order to be allowed to teach. They gained much wisdom through study, training and learning from other teachers. As you think about the wisdom each teacher has on a particular subject, consider the wisdom that we can gain from our study and love of God's Word. The same way teachers invest much of their lives in the study of a particular subject, so we must invest all of our lives in loving and studying Jesus and his Word.
- **Honey Test:** As a family, go to a local farmer's market and purchase some honey. Let your children taste it and discover its sweetness. Whereas sweets like candy and chocolate involve recipes, ingredients and time to create, honey has a natural sweetness. As your children taste the honey, explain to them that, just as God gave this honey natural sweetness, so his Word is sweet and pure without any additives.

My Mission As Parent

- Our kids will not understand a love for God's Word unless we teach them through our words and example. We must learn to think like the psalmist and truly love God's Word. We must declare our love for the Bible, read it often, meditate on it and memorize it. Ask God to let the Word change us in such a way that it makes us wise.
- Look for intentional ways to teach your children God's Word. Help them to understand that the Bible is our road map. It helps us grow closer to God, helps us understand his ways better and helps us to love him more. When we study his Word, we will also be able to hide it in our hearts so that we will not sin against God or fall into evil (Psalm 119:11).

Prayer Points

- Ask the Holy Spirit to give you a deeper love for God's Word.
- As you read and meditate on God's Word, pray that it becomes sweet to you and to your family.
- Pray that your love for God's Word will keep your heart from evil. Ask the Lord to increase your church's love for his Word as well.
- Thank God that he sent Jesus as wisdom for us and that he came to die for our sins.

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