

**Psalm 119:9-16**

9 How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word.

10 I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands.

**11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.**

12 Praise be to you, O LORD; teach me your decrees.

13 With my lips I recount all the laws that come from your mouth.

14 I rejoice in following your statutes as one rejoices in great riches.

15 I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways.

16 I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word.

**Isaiah 55:10-11** 10 As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, 11 so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

**2 Peter 3:17-18** 17 Therefore, dear friends, since you already know this, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from your secure position. 18 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

**Mark 10:13-15** 13 People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. 14 When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. 15 I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."

**John 8:31-32** 31 To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. 32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

**1 Peter 1:23** For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.

(Object Lesson) A Screw Driver and a nail

Most of you know what I have here. This is a nail, and this is a screwdriver. A nail hold boards together. But, this screwdriver is not the right tool for a nail. A nail is pounded with a hammer, or today with a nail gun. It would be almost impossible to pound this nail with the screwdriver. It is important that a person use the right tool.

Today you are here as Children of God. You have learned that God loved you in spite of your rebellion against him. He sent his son who died and rose. Christ died for us, we are called to discipleship, to live for him.

Today I want you to know that the greatest tool God has given his people to live as disciples is His Word.

God calls us to faith through His Word. Look at our confession. **1 Peter 1:23 For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.**

Look at our confession. Jesus says, **John 8:31-32 31 To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. 32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."** Jesus makes us disciples through His teaching, His Word. You see, God wants to give us the right tool for living as His child.

When we face temptation God's Word is our help. Look at our Call to worship from Psalm 119. **11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.**

Sometimes today people feel that learning God's Word is something people do as a child, some people, but not that important for adults who already believe. Some children think going to Sunday School is not cool. When your pastor calls you to Studying the Bible, to Sunday School, it may not seem important.

Today, I want you to see that as we seek to face this life, to live as a child of God, to grow in faith, serve Him, resist temptation that God's word is the right tool. Do you see how many times God has told us this. It is not my idea, but God's.

This hammer will bang in the nail. It is the right tool for the job. The right tool for living as a disciple is God's Word. He tells us that time and time again. Amen.