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Beth

Beth means 'house'

Psalm 119 was made to be memorized. It was written using a mnemonic device that aids in memorization...for readers of Hebrew. But this shows that the Psalmist intended for this lengthy lyric to be learned by heart. Psalm 119 is broken into 22 sections, each line in the section beginning with the next letter of the Hebrew alphabet. Charles Spurgeon said, "The Spirit of God here condescends to alliteration, and to alphabetical arrangement, in order to help the memories of readers." (B. Kandt)

This Study Guide focuses on the second section, verses 9-16, in the New Living Translation.

May you take delight in memorizing God's word,
Doreen Buhler

Psalm 119 calls us to enter into relationship with God and His Word. Meditate on the words describing how we should respond to God's word. Then commit this list to memory.

Many of these words also describe the effort it takes to memorize: trying hard, reciting aloud, studying and, not forgetting. 😊

⁹ How can a young person stay pure?
By **obeying** your word.

¹⁰ I have **tried hard** to find you—
don't let me wander from your commands.

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

¹² I **praise** you, O LORD;
teach me your decrees.

¹³ I have **recited aloud**
all the regulations you have given us.

¹⁴ I have **rejoiced** in your laws
as much as in riches.

¹⁵ I will **study** your commandments
and **reflect** on your ways.

¹⁶ I will **delight** in your decrees
and **not forget** your word.

Write the correct verse number (9-16) beside each section OR cut out the boxes and practice arranging them in the right order. 'Spatial Memory' helps you orient the location of each verse. You might need to use some form of spatial memory, such as color coding each section, if you decide to memorize the entire Psalm.

	I praise you, O LORD; teach me your decrees.
	I have tried hard to find you— don't let me wander from your commands.
	I will delight in your decrees and not forget your word.
	How can a young person stay pure? By obeying your word.
	I will study your commandments and reflect on your ways.
	I have recited aloud all the regulations you have given us.
	I have rejoiced in your laws as much as in riches.
	I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

Each verse contains a synonym for Torah, God's written word. Spend some time rehearsing the list of synonyms. Then practice reciting the verses by using the first letter of each word to help you.

⁹ H c a y p s p?

B o **your word**.

¹⁰ I h t h t f y—

d l m w f **your commands**.

¹¹ I h h **your word** i m h,
t I m n s a y.

¹² I p y, O L;

t m **your decrees**.

¹³ I h r a

a **the regulations** y h g u.

¹⁴ I h r i **your laws**

a m a i r.

¹⁵ I w s **your commandments**

& r o **your ways**.

¹⁶ I w d i **your decrees**

& n f **your word**.

Now, let's make this a bit harder by removing every other word. You can do it!

⁹ H _ a _ p _ p? _ o _ **W**.

¹⁰ _ h _ h _ f _ — d _ m _ f _ **C**.

¹¹ _ h _ **y** _ i _ h, _ I _ n _ a _.

¹² I _ y, _ L; _ m _ **d**.

¹³ _ h _ a _ **t** _ y _ g _.

¹⁴ I _ r _ **y** _ a _ a _ r.

¹⁵ _ w _ **y** _ & _ o _ **W**.

¹⁶ _ w _ i _ **d** _ n _ y _.