

Devotional: Psalms 119:105-112

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105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. 106 I have taken an oath and confirmed it, that I will follow your righteous laws. 107 I have suffered much; preserve my life, O LORD, according to your word. 108 Accept, O LORD, the willing praise of my mouth, and teach me your laws. 109 Though I constantly take my life in my hands, I will not forget your law. 110 The wicked have set a snare for me, but I have not strayed from your precepts. 111 Your statutes are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart. 112 My heart is set on keeping your decrees to the very end.

We all make commitments. Some of these we deem to be important and we really do try to keep them while others are mostly a waste of our breath. We say we are going to start exercising more and so for a day or two we actually do get out and walk or we go to the gym but after a few days our commitment falls by the side and we quit. However if this same commitment is made because we just had a heart attack and our doctor has explained why it is necessary if we want to live and avoid another attack, we may actually stick with our new lifestyle. The difference is that we are serious about it when it means life or death.

So it is when serving God and keeping his word. If it is being done to appease our parents, our spouse or some other person, we likely will be half-hearted in our commitment and probably never get overly eager about it. If we are serving God and seeking to do his will because we have actually come to the realization that it is a matter of life or death, we will probably be more determined to stick with the new lifestyle. We have reason and motivation for doing it.

Paul says the wages of sin is death but the free gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord. We are warned repeatedly that God cannot be fooled and we will reap what we sow. God's laws cannot be broken. It may be laws of physics such as the law of gravity or it may be other laws that we call laws of nature but they are true because God made them – we just discovered them. There are spiritual laws of God in his word and they are just as sure as these so the consequences are just as sure also. We must set our heart on keeping his decrees to the very end.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your love for me. I thank you for revealing your word to me in a written form that I can understand. I know there is much that I still do not know and have not understood but I ask you to help me study more and understand better. I also realize that knowledge that is not used serves no real purpose so help me put your will into practice in my daily life. Lord, be with those who are chronically sick and face daily health issues and give them strength to trust you and find peace in you. I pray in the name of Jesus.

Source:

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<http://www.ephesuschurchofchrist.org/resources/devotionals/2015/09/22/daily-devotional-psalms-119105-112>

Have you been praying for the Franklin church of Christ since the first of the year? Please remember our 2016 theme of Written on the Heart. Listed below are the last three weeks of prayers....

Week #1 – January 3rd-9th

Pray for the spiritual growth of our families.

Memory Verse - Deuteronomy 6:6-7

Week #2 – January 10th-16th

Pray for a remodeling of the heart, a complete restoration.

Memory Verse - Ephesians 1: 17-19

Week #3 – January 17th-23rd

Pray that we are governed by love.

Memory Verse - Ephesians 1:7