



FORMED BY THE WORD

A 6 PART STUDY ON THE BIBLE & SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Session 5: Your Word Is My Light

*How do I know what God is
leading me to do?*

Introduction – When You Need Direction

There are moments in life when the question is not whether you believe in God, but whether you know what He is leading you to do.

- Decisions need to be made
- Paths are unclear
- Options feel uncertain

In these moments, many people ask:

“How do I know God’s will?”

“How do I know which direction to take?”

Psalm 119 does not answer that question by giving a detailed plan.

Instead, it gives something more foundational.

Read Scripture: Psalm 119:130

God’s Word brings **understanding**.

But this understanding does not always come as a full picture.

It comes as light.

Reflection

When you think about needing direction right now, what specific decision or area feels unclear?

Movement 1 – Understanding Comes From God’s Word

The psalmist connects understanding directly to Scripture.

Read Scripture: Psalm 119:130

“The teaching of your word gives light...”

Notice what this verse does not say:

- It does not say experience gives light
- It does not say emotion gives light



- It does not say circumstances give light

It says **God's Word gives light**.

Read Scripture: 2 Timothy 3:16–17

Scripture equips and prepares us for how to live.

Read Scripture: Psalm 19:7–8

God's Word brings wisdom, clarity, and insight.

This means:

If we are not rooted in Scripture, we should not expect clarity in direction.

Understanding begins with exposure to God's truth.

Reflection

Read Psalm 119:130.

According to this verse, what produces understanding?

Read 2 Timothy 3:16–17.

What does Scripture equip a believer to do?

Movement 2 – Direction Comes One Step at a Time

The psalmist then gives one of the clearest descriptions of how God leads.

Read Scripture: Psalm 119:105

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”

A lamp in the ancient world did not illuminate a long distance.

It provided just enough light for the next step.



This challenges how we often approach guidance.

We want:

- the full plan
- complete certainty
- guaranteed outcomes

But God often provides:

- clarity for the next step
- not the entire journey

Read Scripture: Proverbs 3:5–6

God directs our paths—but not always all at once.

Read Scripture: Exodus 13:21–22

God led Israel step by step, not with a full map.

This shows us:

God’s guidance is usually progressive, not immediate.

Reflection

Read Psalm 119:105.

What does the image of a “lamp” reveal about how God gives direction?

Read Proverbs 3:5–6.

What is required of us in order for God to direct our paths?

Movement 3 – Obedience Clarifies Direction



The psalmist does not just ask for light—he commits to follow it.

Read Scripture: Psalm 119:133

“Guide my steps by your word...”

Notice the order:

- God gives direction
- The psalmist responds with obedience

Clarity and obedience are connected.

Read Scripture: John 7:17

Understanding comes through willingness to obey.

Read Scripture: James 1:22

Hearing without doing leads nowhere.

This reveals a key principle:

God often gives more clarity after we act on what He has already shown.

Disobedience clouds direction.

Obedience sharpens it.

Reflection

Read Psalm 119:133.

What does the psalmist ask God to do with his steps?

Read John 7:17.

What connection does Jesus make between obedience and understanding?

Where might hesitation or partial obedience be affecting your clarity right now?



Movement 4 – Discernment Comes Through God’s Truth

The psalmist continues by grounding direction in God’s character.

Read Scripture: Psalm 119:137–138

God is righteous. His laws are trustworthy.

This matters because:

- God’s guidance reflects who He is
- God will not lead in a way that contradicts His character

Read Scripture: James 1:5

God gives wisdom generously.

Read Scripture: Hebrews 5:14

Discernment develops through practice.

Discernment is not instant.

It grows as we:

- engage Scripture
- apply it consistently
- learn to recognize what aligns with God’s truth

Reflection

Read Psalm 119:137–138.

What do these verses say about God’s character?

How does understanding God’s character help you evaluate decisions and direction?



Movement 5 – Clarity Through the Whole Counsel of Scripture

The psalmist concludes this section by emphasizing truth.

Read Scripture: Psalm 119:142–144

God’s Word is described as:

- true
- righteous
- enduring

This reminds us:

Guidance is not found in isolated verses.

It is found in the consistent truth of God’s Word as a whole.

Read Scripture: Luke 24:27

Jesus explains Scripture as a unified story.

Read Scripture: Psalm 119:160

The entirety of God’s Word is truth.

This means:

- We interpret decisions through the whole of Scripture
- Not through isolated impressions or feelings

Reflection

Read Psalm 119:142–144.

What does the psalmist say about the nature of God’s truth?



Why is it important to consider the whole message of Scripture rather than isolated verses?

Summary – Guided by the Word

Psalms 119 teaches us that God’s guidance is not mysterious—it is grounded in His Word.

- God’s Word gives understanding
- Direction comes one step at a time
- Obedience increases clarity
- Discernment grows through truth
- Guidance aligns with God’s character

The question is not:

“Why doesn’t God show me everything?”

But:

“Am I following the light He has already given?”

Final Reflection

What is one next step you sense God may be leading you to take based on His Word?

Practice for the Week

This week, focus on following the light God has already given.

- **Read** – Psalm 119:113–144 slowly
- **Identify** – One truth each day that speaks to your life
- **Apply** – Take one step of obedience based on that truth



- **Reflect** – Write what you learn as you follow

Additionally:

At the end of each day, ask:

“What did God show me today—and how did I respond?”

The goal is not just to seek direction, but to walk in it.

