



## I Know Where to Turn!

We are at week four, memorizing verses 95-96 in our project. Yesterday one of our leaders wrote this on a facebook message to me, **“Psalm 119 is rockin’ my world right now, LOVE IT!”** That is our goal, to love the Word! So... it’s great for the Word to rock our world, but what about the times when other things do? What do we do then? Our verses this week speak to that very thing, knowing where to turn...

***The wicked are waiting to destroy me, but I will ponder your statutes.  
To all perfection I see a limit; but your commands are boundless.***  
*Psalm 119:95-96 (NIV)*

These verses are expressed in various ways in different versions and we will make reference to that as we go along. First however, let’s consider verse 95. I don’t know if you have ever felt like someone wicked was waiting to destroy you but whether you have felt it or not, it is true. The Bible tells us that Satan prowls around like a roaring lion seeking someone to devour (I Peter 5:8) and that we struggle against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly realms (Ephesians 6:12). The Bible also tells us that Satan seeks to destroy us (John 10:10). We tend to point the finger at man, but our true battle is a spiritual one and this is a reality for each of us. So... what to do? I love how this Psalm reads:

***But I will ponder your statutes... (NIV)***  
***But I’m only concerned with your plans for me... (The Message)***  
***I shall diligently consider Thy testimonies... (NASV)***  
***I will quietly keep my mind on your laws.... (NLT)***  
***But I contemplate Your decrees... (HCSB)***

I believe our direction is crystal clear. We have seen that Satan and his adversaries are waiting to destroy us. We have to ponder, be concerned with, diligently consider, keep our mind on and contemplate what God says. He will tell us of His power, His might, His omniscience, His control, His wisdom, His peace, His plan and more. We have an action plan for our battles. We are to turn to His Word! I am personally memorizing in the NASV version, so “diligently” caught my attention. The Word has been given to me as a weapon and I need to “diligently” use it.

How do we diligently turn to the Word of God? “Diligently” makes me think of purposeful, consistent, no giving up allowed attention. The opposite of “diligently” is “hastily”. In battle, it is never smart to make hasty moves... we have to take time to ponder, be concerned with, consider, quietly keep our mind on and contemplate. How are you doing that with the Word? You know where to turn, are you doing it? Or are you hastily reaching for other modes of survival. Memorizing God’s Word is one way to diligently consider God’s Truth, so by all means, keep memorizing. And... ask God this week to show you and lead you into diligent consideration of what He has to say.

Now... let’s move on to verse 96. When we turn to someone or something for help, we would like to think the resources available are limitless. There is only one place we will ever find that to be true, God Himself. This year God has been teaching me something I like to call, “He is the Somebody!”

Think of it like this... have you ever heard someone say,

- “Will somebody do something?”
- “Surely somebody will take care of that!”
- “Please, somebody help us!”
- “Somebody is going to pay for this!”

I think we grow up with this sense that there is somebody in charge, somebody who is responsible, somebody who can take care of things: the parent, the teacher, the policeman, the emergency worker, the government, etc. These will provide help when things get out of hand, when things get overwhelming. Here is the thought God has been developing for me... “God is the Somebody who will take care of the stuff!” What do I mean by that?

We grow up believing in a “somebody” mentality, because we need to know that somebody can take care of it. Only most times, our trust is misplaced to man. Situations like 9/11 reveal the stark reality that man can’t do anything in

the face of some things. Man is limited, his perfection, his resources and understanding can only reach so far. The writer of this Psalm realized the limits of man and this world. I think he would agree with the Isaiah who wrote:

***“Stop regarding man whose breath of life is in his nostrils, why should he be esteemed?”(Isaiah 2:22)***

In verse 96, the variety of versions tell us the Truth of God found in His Word is:

***exceedingly broad (NASV)***  
***boundless (NIV)***  
***without limit (HCSB)***

The way the Message Bible words it, sums it up perfectly:

***I see the limits to everything human, but the horizons can't contain your commands!***



**“Forever O Lord, may we see the value of what You have to say. It is limitless and can reach every need we have! May we always turn to Your Word, so that wickedness will not destroy us.”**