



**SHINE:**  
*A Light for Your Path*  
**Psalms 119: 97-105**  
**Weekly Life Group Guide**  
**2 of 4**

1) Start your group with the following questions:

What, if anything, is a single guiding principle for you in one sentence and where or who did you learn it from?

In your value system how important is the Bible? How has your viewpoint on the importance of Scripture changed over time?

2) Share joys and concerns. Then prepare use this prayer or another prayer, followed by the Lord's Prayer.

**Almighty God, your loving hand created the world and all that is in it. Every mountain and valley, every tree and flower reveals your glory. But of all your creation, men and women alone were made in your image. And you love us above all others. Your Word tells us the story of your relentless love for us, beyond our deserving. Even when we turn away, you forgive us again and again. And you never stop loving us. We are simply overwhelmed by your love, O Lord. Amen.**

*(Followed by the unison praying of the Lord's Prayer)*

3) Look up this week's Scripture (**Psalms 119: 97-105**) and then discuss the following questions verse by verse:

Vs. 97: What does it mean the "love Gods law?" Do we "meditate on it all day long" - do think of Bible once an hour, once a day, once a week?

Vs. 98: Does knowing the Bible create wisdom? Do we have enemies?

Vs. 99: Have you ever felt "smarter than the teacher?" When? Is the knowledge of Scripture important to be a good Christian?

Vs. 100: Have you ever felt smarter than your parents? Have you ever discovered that they knew more than you once thought they did?

Vs. 101: Does the knowledge of the teachings of the Bible have the potential to "keep our feet from evil ways?" How does that work?

Vs. 102: Is there a difference between "knowing" the Bible and "following" the teachings of the Bible?

Vs. 103: What does the Psalmist mean that the words of the Bible are "sweeter than honey?" Obviously a metaphor - but what does it mean?

Vs. 104: Does knowing the Bible help us know truth from falsehood?

Vs. 105: In what way does the Bible illuminate our path?

4) Three Biblical texts (*2 Timothy 3:16-17, Hebrews 4:12, Psalms 119:105*) were used in the Scripture Litany from the traditional services: Read it responsively together:

**1: All Scripture is inspired by God and useful.**

**2: Bringing instruction, correction, and righteousness.**

**1: So God's people may be prepared for every task,**

**2: And equipped to accomplish every good work.**

**1: For the Word of God is living and active;**

**2: Sharper than a double-edged sword;**

**1: It divides between soul and spirit, joints and marrow;**

**2: And judges the thoughts and intentions of the heart.**

**1: Open my eyes to see the truth in your law, O Lord,**

**2: And your understanding that I may put it into practice.**

**1: For your Word is a lamp unto my feet**

**2: And a light unto my path. Amen.**

5) Mark Twain (Samuel Clemmons) once said this:

*"It ain't the parts of the Bible that I can't understand that bother me, it is the parts that I understand all too well."*

What teaching from the Bible that you do understand is the hardest for you to follow today? Why is that?

6) In Dr. Gardner's message Sunday, he said the following:

*"Over the years, I've heard too many people begin a sentence with "The Bible says..." and continue with something I know good and well isn't in the Scriptures at all! And too often I have also, in a heated discussion, heard people say, "I don't care what the Bible says." That's a dangerous statement for a Christian!"*

Do people sometimes justify their opinion or interpretation by saying, "The Bible says" when it doesn't? Why? Do people also sometimes say "I don't care what the Bible says?" What are they really saying? Are both statements a danger for Christians today?

7) Review the remaining "SHINE" message in the series:

*We each can learn to shine the light we have.*

February 24

John 8:4-12

A Light for the Dark Times

March 3

Youth Sunday

9 & 10:30 Services

8) Announce your next Life Group or Class meeting. Close your meeting in prayer for one another and Old Mission.