



Preparing for Small Group: Read the passage below, and answer the following questions.

- (1) What do these verses tell me about God?
- (2) What do these verses tell me about sinful humanity?
- (3) What do these verses tell me about Jesus?
- (4) What does God want me to know?
- (5) What does God want me to do?

“Spoken: God’s Encouragement and Comfort”

Psalm 119:25-32

Main Idea: God’s Word is the source of true encouragement and comfort in life.

WAYS God’s Word brings encouragement and comfort into your life:

By revealing the ways that God encourages and comforts you in life (25-32).

In these verses in Psalm 119, the Psalmist cried out to the Lord from a place of desperation, needing strength that the encouragement of the Lord could provide and needing hope that the comfort of the Lord could instill. In the heart of these verses are the incredible works of God that He performs in the lives of those who look to Him and trust in Him for encouragement and comfort in life. Through the things that the Psalmist asked the Lord to do, as well as the things that he recognized the Lord had done, we see the powerful and wonderful things that the Lord does and can do in the lives of His children! The list isn’t comprehensive, but it’s incredibly comforting. God hasn’t changed. He is still the One and only One who does and can bring true and lasting encouragement and comfort into the lives of His children, which is seen in the many things He does to encourage and to comfort us when we look to Him in life.

- *God gives life to you* (25).
- *God answers you* (26).
- *God teaches you* (26).
- *God gives understanding to you* (27).
- *God strengthens you* (28).
- *God protects you* (29).
- *God defends you* (31).
- *God grows you* (32).

1. Take time in your group to read and to discuss each verse along with the connected truth about God in the list above. Consider and discuss what each truth reveals about God.
2. These truths are related to God’s actions, so how is God’s Word connected to God’s actions?
3. Which of the truths above speak most directly to you right now? Share your testimony of why, and after testimonies are shared, spend time in prayer, thanking God for His encouragement and comfort in your lives.
4. Do you know someone who needs to know these truths? If so, how can you share God’s Word with them this week? Discuss, and then pray for God to lead them to look to Him.

By revealing the ways you should respond when you need God's encouragement and comfort in life (25-32).

Because of what God does and can do, the Psalmist also reveals some important ways that we should respond to God in our lives when we need His encouragement and comfort in life. In fact, these responses should be consistent at all times in our lives, bringing and strengthening God's encouragement and comfort in our lives at all times. The responses are only possible because of the faith that the Psalmist has in God, and faith is still the foundation for our response to God today. In faith, we can respond to God in ways that recognize what He does and what He can do for His children. In faith, we can experience the encouragement and the comfort of God. In faith, we can — and always should — respond to our great God in the simple acts of faith revealed in these verses in Psalm 119.

- *Ask God for all of the things that God can do (25-32).*
- *Meditate on the work of God as revealed in the Word of God (27).*
- *Choose to be faithful to the Lord (30).*
- *Use God's Word as a guide for life (30).*
- *Hold tight to the truth of God's Word (31).*
- *Quickly move to live by God's Word (32).*

1. Take time in your group to read and to discuss each verse along with the connected truth about our response to God in the list above. Consider and discuss what each truth reveals about how we should and can respond to God in our lives.
2. These truths are related to our actions, so how is God's Word connected to and helpful in giving us direction in how we can and should respond to God in our lives?
3. Which of the truths above speak most directly to you right now? Share your testimony of why, and after testimonies are shared, spend time in prayer, thanking God for His direction in our relationship with Him.
4. Do you know someone who needs to know these truths? If so, how can you share God's Word with them this week? Discuss, and then pray for the opportunity to share your testimony and God's Word with others this coming week.