

# Knowing God Through the Word

## Scripture for Meditation: *John 15:10, 11*

If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

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## Hymn of Assurance: *How Firm a Foundation*

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!  
What more can He say than to you He hath said,  
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed.  
For I am thy God; I will still give thee aid.  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand  
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call thee to go,  
The rivers of sorrow shall not thee o'rflow;  
For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,  
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no never, no never forsake.

Words adapted from Rippon's *Selection of Hymns*, 1787

## Hymn of the Word: *Laden with Guilt and Full of Fears*

Laden with guilt and full of fears, I fly to Thee my Lord;  
And not a glimpse of hope appears, but in Thy written Word  
The volumes of my Father's grace does all my griefs assuage.  
Here I behold my Savior's face in every page.

This is the field where hidden lies the pearl of price unknown,  
That merchant is divinely wise, who makes the pearl his own;  
Here consecrated water flows to quench my thirst of sin.  
Here the fair tree of knowledge grows; no danger dwells within.

This is the judge that ends the strife where wit and reason fail,  
My guide to everlasting life through all this gloomy vale.  
Oh may Thy counsels, mighty God, my roving feet command,  
Nor I forsake the happy road that leads to Thy right hand.

Words by Isaac Watts, alt. by Sandra McCracken  
Music by Sandra McCracken  
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## Confession of Faith: *The Shorter Catechism*

*Question 1:* What is the chief end of man?

*Answer:* **Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.**

*Question 2:* What rule hath God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him?

*Answer:* **The Word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him.**

*Question 3:* What do the Scriptures principally teach?

*Answer:* **The Scriptures principally teach, what man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man.**

“The Westminster Assembly wrote the Shorter Catechism in 1647 as a concise question-and-answer summary of the biblical doctrines in the Westminster Confession of Faith. It was written as an instructional tool for use by the family and by the church” (*Trinity Hymnal*, 869).

## Prayer of Blessing

### Hymn of the Word: *God, in the Gospel of His Son*

God, in the Gospel of His Son,  
Makes His eternal counsels known;  
Where love in all its glory shines,  
And truth is drawn in fairest lines.

Here sinners of a humble frame  
May taste His grace, and learn His Name;  
May read, in characters of blood,  
The wisdom, power, and grace of God.

The prisoner here may break his chains;  
The weary rest from all his pains;  
The captive feel his bondage cease;  
The mourner find the way of peace.

O grant us grace, Almighty Lord,  
To read and mark Thy holy Word;  
Its truths with meekness to receive,  
And by its holy precepts live.

Benjamin Beddome, 1717-1795  
Alt. by Thomas Cotterill, 1779-1823; mod.  
Arr. by Dan Forrest  
CCLI #2783020

## Responsive Reading: *Psalms 119:9-16*

How can a young man keep his way pure?

**By guarding it according to your word.**

With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. Blessed are you, O LORD; teach me your statutes! With my lips I declare all the rules of your mouth. In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches.

**I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.**

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## Prayer of Corporate Confession

### Silence for Personal Confession

### Scriptural Assurance of Pardon: *John 1:14*

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

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## Offertory Hymn of Wonder: *And Can It Be*

And can it be that I should gain  
An interest in the Savior's blood?  
Died He for me, who caused His pain—  
For me, who Him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be,  
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?  
Amazing love! How can it be,  
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis mystery all! The Immortal dies!  
Who can explore His strange design?  
In vain the firstborn seraph tries  
To sound the depths of love Divine!  
'Tis mercy all! let earth adore,  
Let angel minds inquire no more.  
'Tis mercy all! let earth adore,  
Let angel minds inquire no more.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay,  
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray—  
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
My chains fell off, my heart was free,  
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.  
My chains fell off, my heart was free,  
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

No condemnation now I dread;  
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine;  
Alive in Him, my living Head,  
And clothed in righteousness divine,  
Bold I approach th' eternal throne,  
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.  
Bold I approach th' eternal throne,  
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

**Hymn of Supplication: *Speak, O Lord*\***

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You  
To receive the food of Your Holy Word.  
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;  
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,  
That the light of Christ might be seen today  
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us  
All Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience,  
Holy reverence, true humility;  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
In the radiance of Your purity.  
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see  
Your majestic love and authority.  
Words of pow'r that can never fail—  
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;  
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us—  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time  
That will echo down through eternity.  
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises,  
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built  
And the earth is filled with Your glory.

"Speak, O Lord"  
Words and Music by Keith Getty & Stuart Townend  
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\*Children under first grade may leave during this song.

**Ministry of the Word**

**Church Info**

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SUNDAY  
9:15 am Corporate Prayer Service  
  
10:30 am Corporate Worship Service

THROUGHOUT THE WEEK  
Shepherding Groups  
\*A nursery is available for all services.  
*Sunday sermons are available as downloadable MP3s at*  
*<http://ebcupstate.sermonaudio.com/>*

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MINISTERS	The congregation at large
PASTORS	Brad Baugham Rhett Gieck Mike Gray John Kane
MINISTER OF WORSHIP	Brian Pinner

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*Emmanuel Bible Church is a church plant of Heritage Bible Church, Greer, SC.*

The new life in Christ, just like all natural life, must be nourished and strengthened. This is possible only in communion with Christ in the Holy Spirit and through the word of Scripture. Enlightened by the Spirit, believers gain a new knowledge of faith. The gospel is the food of faith and must be known to be nourishment. Salvation that is not known and enjoyed is no salvation. God saves by causing himself to be known and enjoyed in Christ.

Herman Bavinck