



Date: _____

Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions Sharpening Your Sword Series, Lesson 36

Lesson Title: How Does the Bible Help Our Lives?

Take Home Point: God's word is a light for situations today and our direction for the future.

Warm-Up:

Recall a time when you could not see because you were in genuine darkness. Perhaps it was while experiencing an electrical power failure at night or in a basement. Think about your feelings during the darkness and then when a friendly light finally appeared. How good it was to see that light! Even the dim glow of a candle or emergency lighting brought a sense of security and assurance that you could handle the situation or make your way out. And you really appreciated full light when it finally came, too, whether it was the restoration of electricity or the light of day after a dark night. I recall a time I was deep in a cave on a guided tour when the guide turned out all the lights. It was so dark! Though only a few seconds, I was really relieved when those lights came back on.

Read: Psalm 119:105

Observation (What happened?):

What do we see by the light of God's word?

What does that light allow us to do?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

What does it mean that God's word lights our path?

How far ahead do you think that light shines?

Insight:

Why do we find it difficult to obey instructions we are given? Things like road detours, test instructions, directions for assembly, work processes – these are generally provided to help us succeed in what we are attempting to do. Usually we recognize the value of directions and are willing to comply. So when we don't, why not? Sometimes because we think we have a better way, or we don't want to take the time to comprehend and go by the instructions given. But to be honest, when it comes to God's instructions, sometimes it's just because we don't know what they are! King David understood the importance of knowing God's word and obeying it. Read Psalm 119 to get an idea of just how much he wanted this. He recognized that it is not enough to read and know what God wanted; he knew he needed to follow it. We need to pray and live in the same way. Then we can say as David did in Psalm 19:14, *"May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer."* (NIV)

Application (What does it mean to me?):

When was the last time you used God's word to light your way? What did you do?

Pray for the children in your small group to recognize and accept the guidance and direction God gives in the Bible.

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