

# JOY IN THE WORD

## WEEK 3

Has anything ever made you so happy that you wanted to shout out loud? Maybe your art project won first place or your team won a really difficult game. Or perhaps a friend or family member you haven't seen in a long time surprises you with a visit! Being happy is one thing but being joyful to the point of bursting out loud is quite another. In the life of King David, many things about his relationship with God led him to this level of joy. One of the biggest joy-makers for David was God's Word. In Psalm 119, David gets quite long-winded about his love for God's law. In verse 16, he writes "I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word." Statutes is a fancy word meaning "a law made by God." David delights in God's law and spends the longest chapter in the Bible praising God for it!

When you read the Bible, does it bring you joy? God's Word wasn't written to be a burden, but a blessing. It was written as a guideline to learn more about God's character, His purposes, and His promises so that we can, in turn, learn how to live. The Bible is one of the most amazing gifts, but do we see it that way? When you read God's Word, you have access to the very real and very touchable love of God. So, rejoice—or as David says, "delight"—in God's Word. In fact, the word delight in Psalm 119:16 actually means "to cry out." So, be as loud as you want! The Bible was God's love letter to David, you, me, and to all of creation.

But delighting in the Word of God is only half of what David was saying. David also said he would not forget God's Word. Being happy that you have the Bible is only the beginning. You have to read, spend time with, and understand God's Word so that when you need help, you can remember what He promises. That's why it's important to read the Bible every day. When you make God's Word a regular part of your life, you can both delight in God's laws and remember exactly what He is teaching you. Thank God for the Bible today and choose every day to delight in it!

### MEMORIZE

Psalm 119:16 - I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.

### FAMILY

Commit to reading the Bible every night as a family this week. The most important thing you can do as a family is grow in your faith together by reading God's Word every day.

### SHARE

Pray and ask God to show you someone in your life who needs a Bible. It could be a kid or a grown-up! As a family, purchase a Bible and give it to that person as a gift. Then, commit to praying for them!

### CHALLENGE

Play Bible Drill! Have everyone hold their Bible in front of them and then have a leader call out a certain book of the Bible or verse. First one to find it, reads it aloud! Maybe even reward the winner with something fun!