

# PSALM 119:1-8

*Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord! Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart, who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways! You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently. Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes! Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments. I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous rules. I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me! (Psalm 119:1-8)*

Yahweh is our sovereign Creator-God, innately true/trustworthy and loving/kind. This means the following things are true about what He has revealed.

- His instruction, His version of truth, His thought-patterns, given to us in writing lead us to living blest.
- He has woven these into the fabric of human existence. Whole-hearted obedience alone leads to living blest.
- He Himself is essential as our companion, leader, advocate and helper, for us to feel blest.

1. What would you tell somebody that some of the blessings are that come with following God's instructions?

2. Since no one can perfectly follow God's instructions, what do the terms "whole heart" (verse two) and "kept diligently" (verse four) mean to you? What are the symptoms that we are following God's instructions half-heartedly?

3. There are expressions in verses five, seven and eight that indicate that the author felt the elusiveness of obedience. Why do you think the Spirit inspired these expressions in a Psalm that is all about the importance of obedience to Yahweh's word?
  
4. There are a number of expressions used in this passage for Yahweh's word. How many different ones are used in these verses and what subtle differences are there between the various terms (like law, testimonies, ways, precepts, etc.)?