

Psalm 119:130 (NLT2)

The teaching of your word gives light, so even the simple can understand.

Jesus' birthday is coming up in a week, so I think I will make a chocolate cake from scratch. Even though I have never made a cake from scratch before, I think I can pull this off, and even though I have a cookbook, but don't read it, I have seen others do it on TV and it looks pretty easy.

Let's see, where do I start? Ahh, let me start with some asparagus, because asparagus is good for you, and it's healthy. So I chop it up and put it in a bowl. Then I need some coco powder for the chocolate flavor. Wait, let me taste this first. Yuck, this coco powder is not sweet at all. I know what to do, I will add a little honey to make it sweet, I don't know how much, maybe half the bottle? Oh, I need to put some oil in there too, I'm not sure why, but I have seen others put oil in the cake batter, maybe half the bottle like I did with the honey. Finally let me get some good, bottled water, not that stinky tap water, but the good \$5 a bottle, bottled water and mix it all up. Now I need to pour it in a pan and bake it for, I would say for 30 minutes at 500 degrees, so it bakes fast and locks in all the juices so it's nice and moist inside.

I know what you are saying right now as you read this, *"You had me until you said asparagus."* Well, I am a little smarter than that and I know that's not how you make a cake, but I gave this example because so many Christians go to church every week, pray before meals and try to live a good Christian life, yet they never read their bible, so all they know about being a Christian is what they hear the pastor speak from the pulpit on Sunday morning. So they are basing their walk with God and relationship with Jesus on a 30-to-45-minute message they hear once a week, and nothing else.

What if we based our entire marriage on watching a 30-minute sitcom on TV once a week and nothing else? We would have a terrible marriage. So then if we wouldn't do this, then why do we think we may be struggling as a Christian? Could it be it because we are basing our relationship with the Lord on what the pastor tells us in a quick 30-minute message on Sunday morning instead of what God wants to say to us in His word every day?

Just like my example of making a cake. Sure I knew there was such a thing as a chocolate cake, and I have seen others make cakes on cooking shows, I even got a few of the ingredients right, like the coco powder and oil (just not the amount), but the rest was wrong based upon what I thought it should be or what was good for others (Asparagus), yet I used it in the wrong context for cooking.

That's what happens if we are not in the word every day, seeking the Lord and what He wants to speak to us each day, and the instructions for living a Godly life based upon His word, instead of what we think. Because asparagus is good for you, and can even taste good when cooked

correctly, and chocolate cake is great as well, as long as it's cooked correctly with the correct ingredients and baking time/temperature.

Just like being in God's word everyday is not rocket science, even as today's verses says, "***The teaching of your word gives light, so even the simple can understand.***"

I am a simple-minded person, and if I can understand it, so can you.

† ***Deuteronomy 8:3 So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD.***

† ***Job 23:12 I have not departed from the commandment of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth More than my necessary food.***