

Psalm 119:2

Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, Who seek Him with the whole heart!

I think one of my favorite Psalms is Psalm 119. It's the longest Psalm and throughout the entire Psalm it talks about God's word and keeping it, as well as living it. And if you know me at all, you know how much I love God's word.

But reading today's verse from Psalm 119, it reminded me of a church that I was going to, and the pastor was teaching on the Sermon on the Mount. When the pastor announced that he was teaching on it, one of the men in the church decided that he was going to memorize the entire Sermon on the Mount. So one Sunday the pastor had him come up and this man quoted the entire Sermon on the Mount and people were amazed. Now don't get me wrong it is a good thing to memorize scripture, even in Psalm 119 it says that: ***"Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You!" Psalm 119:11***

Yet if you read today's verse, it does not say to just memorize scripture, but to live it as well. ***"Blessed are those who keep His testimonies."*** You could read and memorize a cook book, cover to cover all you want, but unless you make the food based upon the recipes in the cook book, it means nothing to you or anyone else. But if you start making some of the things in the cook book, then you would have great meals as well as being able to make great meals for others. Also remember that you have to follow the recipe, meaning you can't add or remove ingredients, because that would ruin the food and it would be pleasing to no one.

Think of the bible as a cook book, and the words in the bible are different recipes. Like a recipe on how to love.

† **1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (NLT2)** *Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.*

Or there are recipes on how to overcome sin and help others overcome sin.

† **James 4:7** *Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.*

† **Galatians 6:1 (NLT2)** *Dear brothers and sisters, if another believer is overcome by some sin, you who are godly should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself.*

Even recipes on how to have a good marriage

† **Ephesians 5:22-28** *Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.*

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself.

And as you read and study these recipes (so to speak) in the bible, you can see all the different components or lets say, the different ingredients for them to come together to make what the recipe says you are making (*Love is patient and kind...* etc). Once again, don't add or remove from the recipe (God's word) or it will ruin His word and be pleasing to no one.

So, go ahead and memorize scripture, but also live what you memorize as well, and as you do verse 2 (*keep His testimonies*), you will find that you are doing verse 3 in Psalm 119 as well.

† **Psalm 119:3** *They also do no iniquity; They walk in His ways.*

† **Psalm 119:3 (NLT2)** *They do not compromise with evil, and they walk only in his paths.*