

DISCOVER

INSIDE ISSUE 10: JUDGES, PSALMS, LUKE, ROMANS

1

Find a time when you can read the Bible each day



2

Find a place where you can be quiet and think



4

Ask God to help you understand what you read



3

Grab your Bible and a pencil or pen



5

Read today's Discover page and Bible bit



6

Pray about what you have read and learned



We want to...

- Explain the Bible clearly to you
- Help you enjoy your Bible
- Encourage you to turn to Jesus
- Help Christians follow Jesus

Discover stands for...

- Total commitment to God's Word, the Bible
- Total commitment to getting its message over to you

Team Discover

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How to use Discover

Here at Discover, we want you at home to get the most out of reading the Bible. It's how God speaks to us today. And He's got loads of top things to say.

We use the New International Version (NIV) of the Bible. You'll find that the NIV and New King James Version are best for doing the puzzles in Discover.



The Bible has 66 different books in it. So if the notes say...

Read Psalm 19 v 1

...turn to the contents page of your Bible and look down the list of books to see what page Psalms begins on. Turn to that page.

"Psalm 1 v 1" means you need to go to chapter 1 of Psalms, and then find verse 1 of chapter 1 (the verse numbers are the tiny ones). Then jump in and read it!



Here's some other stuff you might come across...

WEIRD WORDS

Brolmjar

These boxes explain baffling words or phrases we come across in the Bible.



Think!

This bit usually has a tricky personal question on what you've been reading about.



Action!

Challenges you to put what you've read into action.



Wow!

This section contains a gobsmacking fact that sums up what you've been reading about.



Pray!

Gives you ideas for prayer. Prayer is talking to God. Don't be embarrassed! You can pray in your head if you want to. God still hears you! Even if there isn't a Pray! symbol, it's a good idea to pray about what you've read anyway.



Coming up in Issue 10...

Psalms: God talk

You can find the book of Psalms somewhere near the middle of your Bible. It's a collection of songs, prayers and poems written about God and to God.

(By the way, the "P" of Psalms is silent — so it rhymes with calms, palms, farms and llamas... well, almost!)

There are 150 psalms in total — but in this issue of Discover we're going to look at just two. Both of them tell us about how God speaks to us. The writers of these psalms are so excited about God's Word, the Bible — and by the end of their songs you will be too!

Luke: On the road with Jesus

We pick up Luke's life story of Jesus about halfway through. This bit of Luke's Gospel records lots of Jesus' teaching. But these are definitely not boring sermons! Jesus uses loads of interesting stories (parables) to get His message across.

Jesus' BIG warning is that those who think they're good enough for God on their own will miss out on being part of His special kingdom. But there's really GOOD news for those who accept Jesus. We'll see that following Him is sometimes tough — but it's always totally worth it!

Judges: Heroes and zeros

God's Old Testament people, the Israelites, are finally living in the land God promised to give them as their home.

But there's a problem. They keep going against God, so He allows them to get bullied by their enemies. But then God raises up judges to rescue them! Not the TV-talent-show kind of judges — these ones are more like warriors and rulers.

They're definitely not perfect though. Some of them will seriously shock us. But we'll also be wowed as we see how God always rescues His people, even when they don't deserve it!

Romans: Happy hope

Do you ever make up your mind to do the right thing and try really really hard... but then you end up doing what's wrong anyway?

You're not the only one. In chapter 7 of his letter to the Romans, Paul says that he does that too!

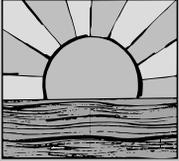
Then we get to chapter 8, which some people say is one of the mountain peaks of the WHOLE Bible! We'll see that the power for living God's way comes from God's Spirit living in us. And that no matter what happens, if we're trusting in Jesus, God is NEVER going to give up on us! It's super-encouraging stuff.

**So what are you waiting for?
Let's get stuck in...**

Psalms: God talk



Psalms 19 v 1-6



How's your singing voice today?

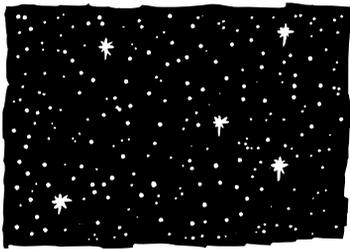
In tune? A bit croaky?

We're kicking off this issue of Discover by looking at two psalms.

Psalms

Psalms are songs and prayers written to God. We're looking at two psalms that tell us about how God speaks to us. God mainly talks to us through His Word, the Bible. But reading the Bible isn't the only way we learn about God.

David wrote Psalm 19. In it he says that we can learn things about God just by looking up in the sky!



Go outside or look out of the window. What does the sky look like right now?



God made all of that! It shows us how amazing He is. Sun, clouds, rain, stars, moon, lightning — **God made it all!**



Wow!

Even people who don't read the Bible see what God has made! It doesn't matter if you're in London or Hawaii, the sky always shows us how great God is.



Read Psalm 19 v 1-4

What does the sky show us about God? Go back 1 letter to find out (B=A, C=B, D=C etc).



1. _ _ _ _ ' _

H P E T

_ _ _ _ _

H M P S Z

2. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

X I B U I F

_ _ _ _ _

I B T N B E F

WEIRD WORDS

Heavens

The sky

Glory of God

God's greatness

Proclaim

Shout out

Chamber

Room

Champion rejoicing

An athlete who loves to run

Read verses 4-6

The **sun** is a picture of how great God is. It is millions of miles away, but it's sooooo bright and powerful. God made the sun, so imagine how much more powerful God is!



Action!



Look up at the sky and praise God for how great and powerful He is! Maybe when you see the sun or stars, you can tell others how great God is!

Psalm
19 v 7-14



Yesterday we saw how the sky shows us God's greatness.

WEIRD WORDS

**Law/statutes/
precepts/
decrees**

God's commands to us in the Bible

Radiant

They shine and show us the right way to live

Righteous

Perfect

Wilful sins

Doing wrong stuff on purpose

Blameless

Right with God

Transgression

Sin

Word in your ear

How else can we find out about God and learn from Him?

Read Psalm 19 v 7-11

... and circle the words that appear in these verses.

**law teachings fear
commands Luton statutes
herrings precepts rules
judgments decrees
sporran instructions**

Some of them may be long and weird but they describe something God wants all of us to understand.

They all mean "God's Word" — what God says to us. God's Word is the Bible, which we can all read!

So what is God's Word like?

Read verses 7-11 again

and fill in the vowels (aeiou) to find out what God's Word is like.

God Word is...

p__rf__ct (v7)

tr__stw__rthy (v7)

w__s__ (v7)

r__ght (v8)

p__r__ (v9)

more precious than g__ld

and sw__t__r than

h__n__y (v10)



**That sounds awesome!
We should read it more often!**

Read verses 12-14

We don't always do what the Bible tells us. We often mess up. But you can do what David did in these verses:

1. Say SORRY to God
2. Ask God to FORGIVE you
3. Ask God to HELP you to please Him with what you do, say and think

Pray!



God's Word is perfect, pure, true, trustworthy and right. It gives joy to the heart, is more precious than gold and will last forever! Thank God for the Bible. Ask Him to help you understand it more and do what it says.

Blessed is best

Psalm
119 v 1-8,
33-35



We're delving into Psalms to find out how God speaks to us.



WEIRD WORDS

Blameless
Living God's way

Steadfast
Firm — always obeying God

Decrees
Commands

Upright
Good and godly

Righteous
Perfect

Utterly forsake me
Abandon me

Remember any of the words for the Bible (or God's Word) that we discovered yesterday?

C _ m m _ n d s

Pr _ c _ p t s

L _ w

St _ t _ t _ s

Remembering them will come in handy as we jump forward 100 psalms to **Psalm 119**.

Which of these speech bubbles fits YOU best? Circle one.

I don't know much about the Bible.



I know what the Bible says but I don't do much about it.

I know what God says in the Bible and I want to live that way.

Read Psalm 119 v 1-3

What's the great news for people who obey God's Word?

They are b _ _ _ _ _ d

That means God is pleased with them for obeying Him. God also gives His people great things, far more than they could ever deserve.

Read verses 4-8

If we want to obey God's Word (the Bible), we'll hate doing what's wrong and love following God's ways. But we need God's help!

Even when we really want to live God's way, we often mess up and let Him down. The psalm-writer knew he couldn't obey God without HUGE help from the Lord.



Action!

Flick forward in Psalm 119 to **verses 33-35**. Read through them several times. Now write them out on a sheet of paper. You might want to put them into your own words and maybe even turn it into a poster for your wall.



Pray!



If you really want to live for God, pray the prayer you've just written down. Ask God to help you serve Him in everything you do.

Psalm
119 v 9-16



*How's your
memory?*

*Try this memory
test to find out.*

WEIRD WORDS

**Decrees/
statutes/
precepts**

Commands

Recount

Repeat

Rejoice

Celebrate, be really
happy

Meditate

Focus on and think
about

Neglect

Ignore and forget

Hide and speak

??? MEMORY TEST ???

1. What did you eat for lunch yesterday?

2. When is your mum's birthday?

3. What colour socks did you wear yesterday?

4. What's your best friend's phone number?

5. What is your favourite Bible verse?

If you're like me, you're not too good at remembering important stuff like birthdays and keeping promises... and especially what the **Bible** says!

**Somewhere in
the Bible it says
something like...
er... I think it
starts "Trust..."**



Read Psalm 119 v 9-16

What did the psalm-writer do to remember God's words? Fill in the missing word from verse 11 by drawing a picture of it.

**I have hidden
your word in my**



It didn't go in one ear and out the other! He had been thinking and praying about God's words so much that he knew many of them off by heart!

Did you notice why this guy was so keen not to forget anything he learned from God's Word? (v11)

So that I _____

Wow!



Knowing God's Word in the Bible helps us to live for Him and not mess up so much! And when we face tough times, it really helps to remember God's words to us.

Action!



Have trouble remembering Bible verses? Start hiding them in your heart! Ask God to help you. Pick one of these:

Psalm 119 v 11

John 15 v 17

Proverbs 10 v 19

Go on, try memorising it!

Totally trustable

Psalm
119 v 89-91



Get hold of a really old photo of your parents or one of your relatives.

Go on, do it!

Notice anything different about them?

Do they look just a *little* bit younger? Maybe they had a bit more hair! Their clothes might have been crazier too.

Things change. Fashions change. Haircuts change. People change.

But there's one thing that never changes. It stays the same, it's reliable and totally trustable...

God's Word!

Read Psalm 119 v 89-91

What God has said in the Bible is true for how long?

Until 4.30pm next Friday

Until the end of the world

Forever and ever and ever

God's Word is **ETERNAL** (v89). It lasts forever and is completely perfect and true.



God made the earth and that has lasted (v90). But God's Word has always been true and will be forever! We can trust the Bible completely!

What else lasts forever (v90)?

God's f_____ss



Wow!

Can we really rely on what God has said and promised?

Of course we can! God is totally faithful. He'll never let you down!



Pray!

Thank God that His Word lasts forever. And that it is true and totally trustable. And that He will never let you down!

WEIRD WORDS

LORD

God

Eternal

Lasts forever

Faithfulness

God is totally trustable

All generations

Forever

Established

Created

Endures

Lasts

Do the light thing

Psalm
119 v 105, 130



Have you got any tough decisions to make?

Not sure if it's right or wrong to do a particular thing?

Read on for some priceless advice.

Is it wrong to do this?

I'm really confused about...

What's the right thing to do?

Think!

Is there anything you're unsure about at the moment?

A million thoughts buzz around your head until you're confused.

STOP! THINK!
WHAT DOES GOD'S WORD SAY ABOUT IT?



Read Psalm 119 v 105

At night-time street lights, flashlights and headlights are great for showing us the way to go. And that's what the Bible does for us. It shows us...

(circle the three correct answers)

God's way

the way we want

easiest way right way

best way popular way

The Bible shows us the right and best way to live. God's way.

Read verse 130

You don't even have to be super-intelligent! God has promised to help us understand His Word.



Wow!

If you want to do the right thing and please God, then discover what the Bible says. **Ask God to help you understand His Word!**

Action!

Look at what you've written down under Think! Now...

- read what the Bible says about it (ask someone where to look if you're not sure)
- talk to an older Christian about it
- pray about it



Positive prayer pointers

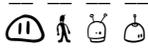
Psalm
119 v 145-149



We're still in Psalm 119, taking an in-depth look at God's Word, the Bible.

Today is a code-breaker special.

What should we always do when we read the Bible?



Be honest: how often do you pray? Is it usually rushed?

The person who wrote Psalm 119 didn't just say a super-quick prayer and then rush for his breakfast! He had something to ask God that he really needed the Lord to answer. See how he went about it...

Read Psalm 119 v 145-149

What did he do?



His prayers were not a bored, quiet mumble. He put his heart into it. He was so desperate for God to hear him that he even prayed through the night!



What did he call out to God?



He asked God to save him from his enemies. And we can ask God to help us too.

Why was he sure that God would answer his prayer? (v149)



He knew that he didn't deserve an answer from God. But he knew how incredibly kind and loving God is. God loves us and answers our prayers!

WEIRD WORDS

Decrees/statutes

God's commands

Watches of the night

The middle of the night

Meditate

Think about

Preserve my life

Keep me alive



Pray!

When you pray to God, make sure you mean every word from your heart. Try it right now as you tell God what's on your mind.

A C D E G I L M O P R S T U V Y



Psalm
119 v 171-176



Over the last week we've learned loads about the Bible.

Can you remember what we've learned about the Bible in Psalms 19 and 119?

WEIRD WORDS

Righteous

Perfect and right

Decrees/ Precepts

Commands

Salvation

Rescue

Sustain me

Support me, keep me living your way

Shout about it!

Fill in the missing vowels (aeiou) for a reminder (flick back over the last 7 days if you need to).

God's Word is...

p__rf__ct

tr__stw__rthy

more precious than g__ld

to be __beyed

to be hidden in our h____rts

always the s__me

f____thf__l

a l__ght to guide us

How great is the Bible?! We should talk about it much more!

Read Psalm 119 v 171-176

and see what the psalm-writer did after learning so much from God's Word.

His l__ps ov__rfl__wed with

pr____se and he had to

s__ng about G__d's W__rd.

He couldn't keep quiet about God or about God's Word, the Bible!



That's why he wrote this huge, long psalm (it's got 176 verses!). He just had to PRAISE GOD!

He had soooo much to say about how awesome God's Word is!

He wanted EVERYONE to know how much he loved it. And he wanted them to love it too.



Think!

What are you always jabbering on about? What do you love talking about to anyone who will listen?

Wouldn't it be great if you were as keen to talk about what you've read in the Bible!

Pray!

Thank God for giving us the Bible. Ask Him to help you tell your friends what you've learned from His Word.



Luke: Life with Jesus

Luke 10 v 25-28



*Want to know
how to get to
heaven?*

And how to pray?

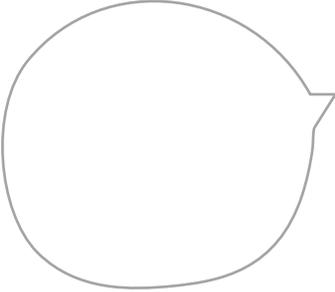
*And how to live
for God?*

*Then it's time to
learn from Jesus!*

An expert in the Old Testament put Jesus to the test with a tricky question.

Read Luke 10 v 25

What was his question?



The key words there are "what must **I do?**". In other words: "How can I **earn** eternal life?"

Read verse 26

Jesus asked him what God's law (the Old Testament) says the answer is.



Action!

Something on your mind? Not sure what the answer is? The first place to look is always the Bible. Maybe you know someone who can show you exactly where to look.



WEIRD WORDS

The Law

Old Testament

Inherit

Get given

Eternal life

Living with God forever!

Neighbour

Anyone you meet

So how do we get eternal life with God?

Read verses 27-28

Complete the sentence by filling in the right words.

To inherit eternal life you must love the Lord

with all your _____

and with all your _____

and with all your _____

and with all your _____.

Great answer, but he was asking the wrong question. No one can earn eternal life because no one can actually live a perfect life.



Wow!

We can't EARN eternal life, but we can get it! It's a GIFT from God. He sent Jesus to die in our place. We can only have eternal life by trusting Jesus to forgive our sins.



Pray!

Thank God for His awesome gift of eternal life. And ask Him to help you love Him even more!

Luke
10 v 29-37



A Bible expert asked Jesus how he could get eternal life.

Jesus told him that he had to love God and love his neighbour.

The man knew he hadn't done this. He needed an excuse.

WEIRD WORDS

Justify himself

Prove he knew what he was talking about

Inn

Place to stay

Mercy

Undeserved kindness

Neighbourhood watch

So the man came up with another tricky teaser.

Who is my neighbour?

Check out Jesus' amazing answer.

Read Luke 10 v 29-35

Fill in how the 3 men reacted.

The Priest

(a man chosen to serve God)

The Levite

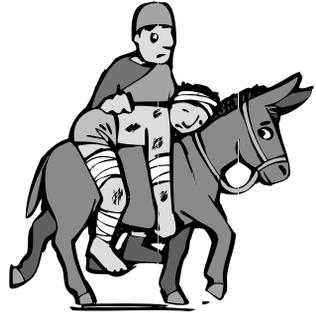
(a helper in God's temple)

The Samaritan

(from Samaria, so an enemy of God's people)

So who was a friend to the injured man?

The one they least expected.



Read verses 36-37

Jesus is saying that even a hated Samaritan is this man's neighbour. **Anyone**, even the people we least expect, can love God and live His way. And anyone can be part of God's kingdom.

Wow!

The man asked who his neighbour was. Jesus says that EVERYONE is our neighbour, whether we like them or not. So we should go out of our way to show God's love to them.



Think & pray!

Who do you need to show God's love to and how will you do it?

Ask God to help you!