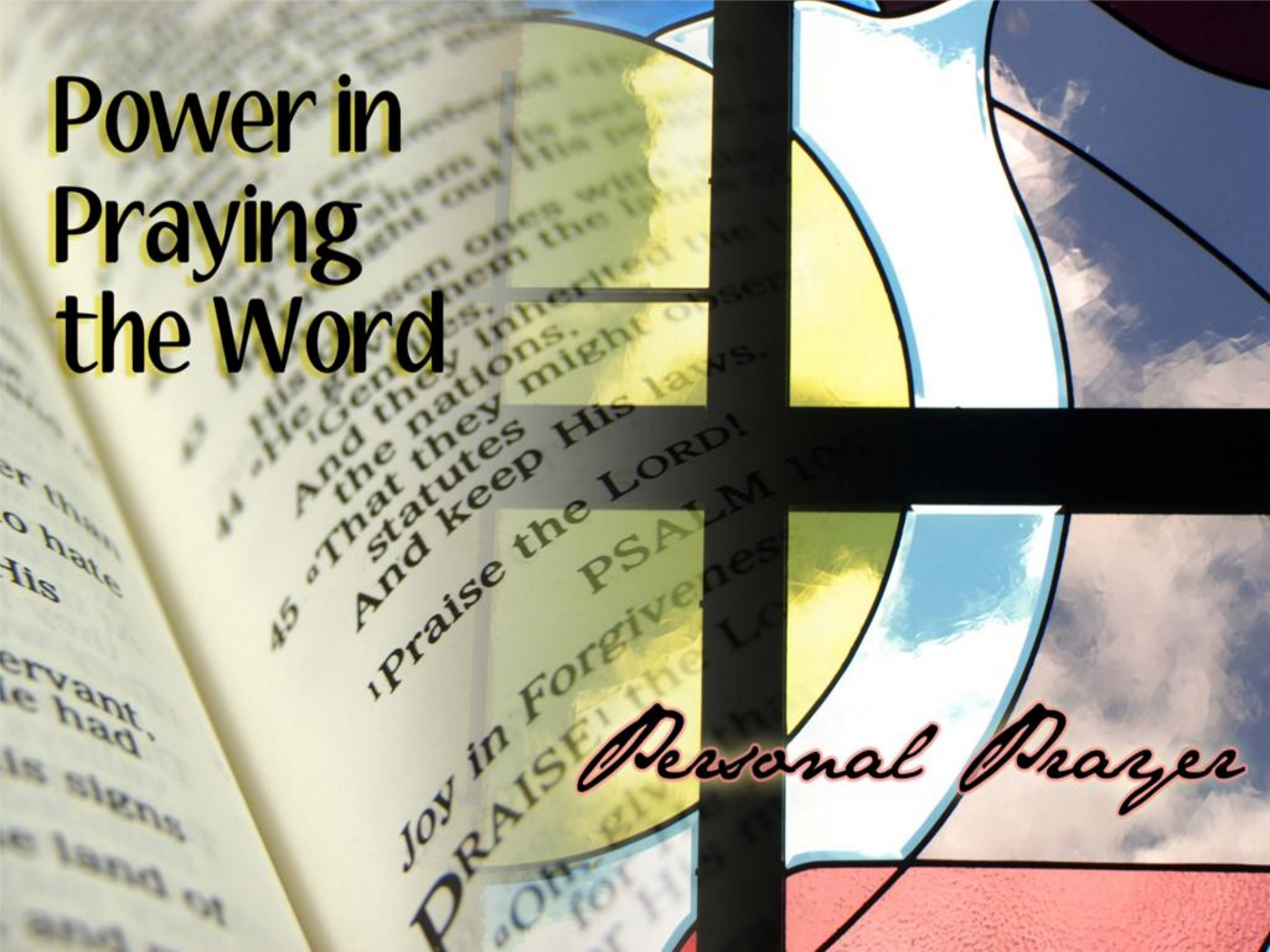


# Power in Praying the Word



*Personal Prayer*

# Letters of Love: Psalm 119:97

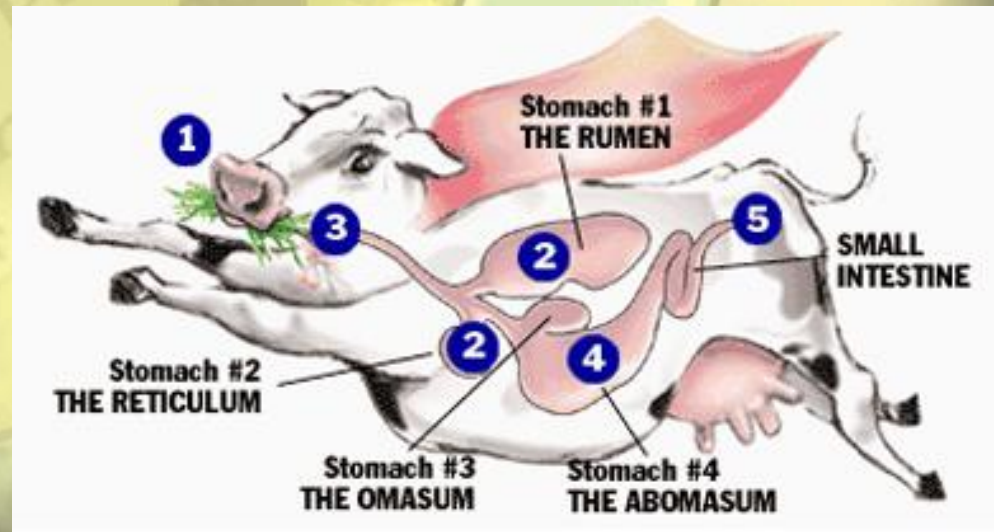
***97a: Oh how I love your law!***

**Loving the law is an acquired taste that comes from meditation, not just reading every once in a while and going to church...**

***97b: It is my meditation all the day.***

# Letters of Love: Psalm 119:97

Mediate on the Word: Mutter, Ponder, Ruminare



# Letters from War: Psalm 119:98

*Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me*

**This doesn't mean physical protection, but guard from anyone who is against your spiritual well-being and growth. It comes from always having the Word inside, not memorizing Bible trivia.**

# Letters of Learning: Psalm 119:99-100

*I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your testimonies are my meditation. I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts.*

**Meditating in the Word gives you wisdom about God's will. You take knowledge from these teachers and elders and can apply it to what really matters.**

# Letters for Living: Psalm 119:101-102

*I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word. I do not turn aside from your rules, for you have taught me.*

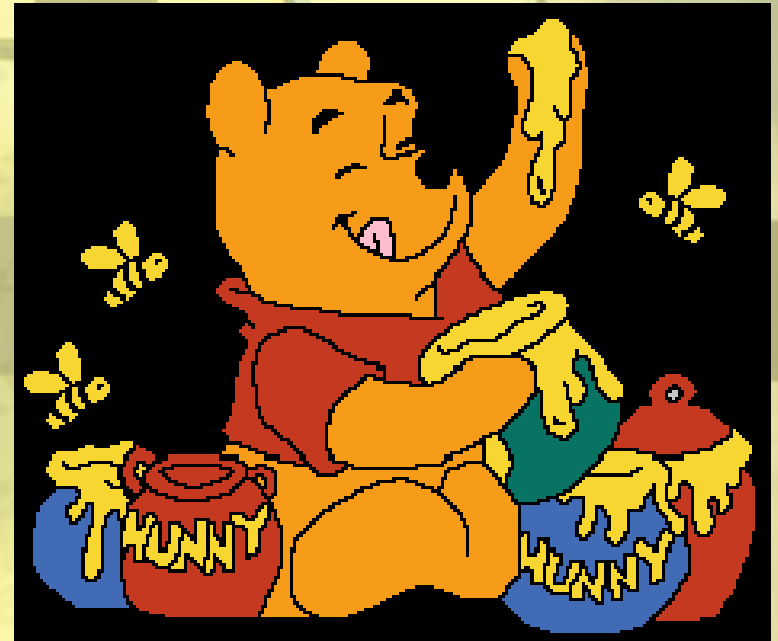
**Meditating in the Word creates a lifestyle that is based around God, not the world. This is the definition of “keeping the precepts.”**

# Letters for Food: Psalm 119:103

*How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!*

This is how the Word can taste. Keeping the Word comes from wanting to, not from doing because it is the right thing to do.

Reading the Law was even Paul's last meal!



# Letters of Change: Psalm 119:104

*Through your precepts I get understanding,  
therefore I hate every false way.*

**This is the power of getting deep in the Law,  
there is more than just living a lifestyle. It causes  
a change to hate evil ways. We still love people,  
but hate sin.**

# Praying the Word: Ezra

## The Prayer of Ezra 9:6, 11-12

**“O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift my face to you, my God, for our iniquities have risen higher than our heads...”**

**You commanded by your servants the prophets, saying, ‘The land that you are entering, to take possession of it, is a land impure with the impurity of the peoples of the lands...**

**Therefore do not give your daughters to their sons, neither take their daughters for your sons, and never seek their peace or prosperity, that you may be strong and eat the good of the land and leave it for an inheritance to your children forever.’**

## The Scripture Prayed

**For my iniquities have gone over my head. (Psalm 38:4)**

**The land that you are entering to take possession of it...You shall not intermarry with them, giving your daughters to their sons or taking their daughters for your sons.**

**(Deuteronomy 7:1, 3)**

**You shall not seek their peace or their prosperity all your days forever.**

**(Deuteronomy 23:6)**

**If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land.**

**(Isaiah 1:19)**

**That you may possess this good land, and leave it for an inheritance for your children after you forever. (Deut. 28:8)**

# Praying the Word: Jesus

Think of the Lord Jesus. In His youth and manhood He treasured the Word in His heart. In the temptation in the wilderness, and on every opportunity that presented itself – till He cried out on the cross in death, “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” (Psalm 22:1) [and “Into your hands I commend my spirit” Psalm 31:5] He showed that the Word of God filled His heart.

And in His prayer life He manifested two things: first, that the Word supplies us with material for prayer and encourages us in expecting everything from God. The second is that it is only by prayer that we can live such a life that every word of God can be fulfilled in us.”

*-Andrew Murray (The Prayer Life)*

# Praying the Word: Wesley & Whitefield

For all [Bible] reading should be joined with meditation and prayer. Read a little, pray and meditate much.

*-John Wesley*

I began to read the Holy Scriptures upon my knees...and praying over, if possible, every line and word. This proved meat indeed, and drink indeed, to my soul. I daily received fresh life, light and power from above.

*-George Whitefield*

# Praying the Word: Luther

Knock on every little twig, whether there would be some berries that would fall off. Should at the beginning one think it somewhat difficult and should the prayer not flow at once, one may go on, to try the same on another twig. If the soul is only hungry, the Spirit of God will not leave it undernourished. Yea, it will finally be found, that the man will see so many living fruit in one small verse, that he will remain there and settle, as under a tree richly laden.

***-Martin Luther*** (Quoted by August Francke in the Luther Bible; 1877)

# Praying the Word: You and Me

- Take your Bible (or one of the Bibles at your feet) and open to Psalm 119:9-16.
- Find a space in the prayer rooms, around the room, or in your seats to practice Luther's form of Bible "twig knocking" meditation.
- Try praying until the band starts.

