

# 25-0608p - Detailed Summary

## 25-0608p - *A Father's Instruction, Part 2, Jim Lokenbauer*

**Bible Reader:** Mike Mathis

This detailed summary by Grok, xAI, (Transcription by TurboScribe.ai)

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## A Father's Instruction, Part 2

Summary of Transcript (0:04 - 31:56)

### Scripture Reading

**Bible Reader: (0:04 - 0:28), Mike Mathis**

**Psalm 119:18**

The sermon begins with Mike reading Psalm 119:18, which says, "Open my eyes that I may see wondrous things from your law."

### Summary

**Preacher:** Jim Lokenbauer

#### (0:33 - 2:10) Importance of Prayerful Study of God's Word

The preacher, Jim, greets the congregation warmly, expressing hope that everyone had a pleasant day. This brief introduction sets a welcoming tone and establishes the scriptural foundation for the sermon, emphasizing a prayerful request for divine insight into God's law. Jim highlights the significance of Psalm 119:18, noting it as one of his favorite verses. He explains that the Holy Spirit reveals the unique depth of God's word, which contains layers of meaning that require prayerful study to uncover. While reading the Bible cover-to-cover provides familiarity with its stories and characters, true understanding demands diligent effort and prayer to grasp its deeper teachings. Jim uses an analogy of gold mining to illustrate this point: just as one cannot casually find gold by strolling through a park, uncovering the treasures of God's word requires learning, consulting wise sources, and applying significant effort.

#### (2:11 - 6:21) Biblical Cause-and-Effect and Psalm 119 Structure

Continuing the gold-mining analogy, Jim explains that discovering spiritual treasures in God's word requires studying resources, consulting wise individuals, and using appropriate tools, much like mining for gold. He emphasizes the importance of prayerfully seeking God's guidance to understand His law. Jim transitions to discussing biblical "if-then" statements, which demonstrate cause-and-effect principles used by God and parents to teach consequences. He cites God's

command to Adam in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:17) and Ezekiel 18:4 to illustrate that sin leads to death, reinforcing the clarity of this principle. Jim notes that through King David and Solomon, inspired by the Holy Spirit, God provides instructions not only for their children but for all believers. He introduces Psalm 119:9-16, describing it as an acrostic poem structured around the Hebrew alphabet, with each section starting with a specific letter, such as "Beth." Jim humorously recalls a Hebrew lesson from Dan Collier, who taught that "Beth" should be pronounced with a Southern drawl, adding a lighthearted touch to the sermon.

### **(6:22 - 6:48) Purity Through God's Word**

Jim reads Psalm 119:9-11, focusing on the question, "How can a young man keep his way pure?" The answer is by living according to God's word, seeking God wholeheartedly, and hiding His word in one's heart to avoid sin. The passage emphasizes praising God and learning His decrees, with the speaker recounting God's laws aloud. This section underscores the importance of internalizing and vocalizing God's word as a means of spiritual purity and devotion.

### **(6:49 - 10:57) Guarding Against Sinful Ruts**

Jim continues with Psalm 119:12-16, where the psalmist expresses joy in following God's statutes, meditating on His precepts, and delighting in His decrees without neglecting them. He explains that "young man" in verse 9 (from the Hebrew *naar*) applies to both boys and girls, and "his way" (from *orach*) refers to a well-worn path, like a camel caravan's route, symbolizing habitual behavior. Jim emphasizes that adhering to God's word prevents falling into sinful ruts and provides course correction for bad habits. The Hebrew word *shamar* (to guard or protect) is highlighted as a call to guard God's word in one's heart, protecting it like a hedge. Jim references the Tree of Life version of the Bible, which frames this as guarding one's way according to God's word, ensuring both obedience and restoration to God's grace when one strays.

### **(10:58 - 11:28) Transformative Power of God's Word**

Jim stresses that guarding God's word in one's heart maintains spiritual purity and reflects the transformative power of believing and living by it. This process requires significant effort, as believers must actively repent and change their behavior based on God's word, which convicts the heart and leads to a renewed life aligned with God's will.

### **(11:29 - 13:35) Effort and Repentance in Following God's Word**

The sermon continues to emphasize the effort required to live according to God's word and avoid slipping into sinful habits. Jim explains that the Holy Spirit convicts believers of sin through God's word, prompting repentance and behavioral change. He references James, who calls believers to be "effectual doers" of the word, underscoring the necessity of action. Jim cites Jeremiah 6:16, which encourages seeking the "ancient paths" to find rest for the soul, and 2 Timothy 1:13-14, where Paul instructs Timothy to guard the sound teaching entrusted to him with the Holy Spirit's help. This section highlights the believer's responsibility to actively pursue God's word and rely on divine assistance to maintain spiritual integrity.

## **(13:35 - 13:59) Holy Spirit's Role in Guarding God's Word**

Jim reinforces that the Holy Spirit provides believers with an advantage over Old Testament figures by dwelling within them, aiding in guarding God's word and escaping sinful ruts. This divine help empowers believers to protect the "precious deposit" of God's word in their hearts, ensuring spiritual growth and resilience.

## **(13:59 - 16:09) Wholehearted Pursuit of God**

Focusing on Psalm 119:10, Jim highlights David's wholehearted pursuit of God, emphasizing that true belief treats God's word as reality, not mere stories. He contrasts the effort required to study God's word and attend church with worldly distractions like fishing or lounging. Jim underscores that believers must view God's word as real and essential, likening it to a "moral booster shot" that strengthens them against Satan's assaults. David's devotion, expressed as seeking God with all his heart, serves as a model for believers to diligently pursue God's will and make His word central to their lives.

## **(16:12 - 17:15) Human Frailty and Need for God's Guidance**

Jim acknowledges human frailty, noting that distractions and divided interests can lead to sin when focus shifts from God. He references Psalm 119:176, where David admits to straying like a lost sheep and pleads for God to seek him. Even a devoted follower like David requires God's intervention to return to the fold, emphasizing the need for ongoing reliance on God's grace and guidance to maintain spiritual purity.

This first part of the sermon establishes the theme of seeking and guarding God's word to live a pure and obedient life, using Psalm 119 as a foundation. Jim employs analogies, scriptural references, and Hebrew insights to underscore the effort and divine assistance required to understand and apply God's teachings, encouraging believers to remain steadfast despite human tendencies to stray.

## **(17:20 - 21:03) Guarding and Cherishing God's Word**

Jim reflects on the human tendency to stray, referencing 1 Peter 2:25, which describes believers as sheep who have returned to the Shepherd. He urges diligence in guarding the treasure of God's word, advocating for a deep, mature understanding rather than a superficial or infantile knowledge. Immediate course corrections are necessary when drifting from God, emphasizing personal responsibility. In Psalm 119:11, David's act of hiding God's word in his heart is not selfish but a way to cherish it as a treasure, ensuring it is always accessible for reflection and sharing. Jim explains that in ancient times, the heart was considered the center of thought, so hiding God's word there meant keeping it ready for recitation, especially in moments without a Bible, such as at a doctor's office. In verse 12, David's praise for God's law reflects his emotional and spiritual awe, recognizing the need for divine teaching to understand God's profound thoughts, as casual reading is insufficient.

## **(21:04 - 21:35) Petitioning God for Understanding**

Jim encourages the congregation to adopt David's attitude of humbly seeking God's teaching, acknowledging that understanding complex biblical concepts, like grace, requires persistent effort

and prayer. He humorously notes the Baptists' grasp of grace, suggesting it took the church significant effort to comprehend, reinforcing the need for petitioning God for insight.

### **(21:36 - 23:50) Deepening Understanding and Sharing God's Word**

Jim shares a personal anecdote about struggling to understand Leviticus 17:11, which discusses the significance of blood, until persistent study illuminated its connection to Christ's perfect sacrifice. This underscores the value of digging deeper into scripture. In Psalm 119:13, David's ability to recount God's laws publicly and privately stems from internalizing them, enabling him to teach and defend God's way. As a musician, David wove God's laws into his psalms, which, inspired by the Holy Spirit, became part of scripture. This highlights the practical outcome of memorizing and cherishing God's word, allowing believers to share it effortlessly.

### **(23:52 - 26:01) Joy in Following God's Statutes**

Jim emphasizes the importance of memorizing God's word to share it without a Bible, reinforcing its value as a treasure. In Psalm 119:14, David's joy in following God's statutes is likened to delight in great riches, bringing him peace and confidence in pleasing God. Jim encourages believers to rejoice in God's word similarly. In verse 15, David's meditation on God's precepts prompts Jim to question whether the congregation truly meditates on scripture. He admits he has never intentionally set out to meditate, suggesting that pondering God's word during study counts as meditation, aligning with David's practice.

### **(26:02 - 26:48) Defining Meditation on God's Word**

Jim clarifies that meditation, from the Hebrew word *siyach*, involves pondering, musing, praying, and conversing with oneself about God's word. He reflects that his spontaneous pondering during study fits this definition, though he has never formally planned to meditate. This section emphasizes that meditation is an accessible practice of deeply engaging with scripture.

### **(26:49 - 28:40) The Discipline of Meditation**

Jim acknowledges that David deliberately meditated on God's word, setting an example for believers. He cites Psalm 1:2, which describes meditating on God's law day and night, indicating a disciplined, intentional practice. As God's anointed king and prophet, David's words carry divine authority, urging believers to immerse themselves in scripture constantly. Jim connects this to Deuteronomy's instructions for parents to teach God's word throughout daily life, suggesting that meditation involves making God's word an integral part of one's existence through constant reflection and application.

### **(28:40 - 29:13) Immersing in God's Word**

Reinforcing the idea of constant engagement, Jim reiterates Deuteronomy's call to surround oneself with God's word—through teaching, writing, and symbolic reminders. Meditation, in this context, means thinking about and internalizing scripture to make it a personal possession, ensuring it shapes one's life and actions.

## **(29:15 - 31:03) Delighting in and Acting on God's Word**

In Psalm 119:16, David's delight in God's decrees and commitment not to neglect them inspire Jim to express his own excitement for discussing scripture with others and the satisfaction of productive study sessions. David's example as an "effectual doer" of the word, despite his flaws, highlights the importance of repentance and returning to God's word when straying. Jim notes that David's faithfulness stemmed from recognizing his errors, repenting, and realigning with God, making him a model for believers seeking to live obediently.

## **(31:06 - 31:56) Conclusion and Future Teaching**

Jim concludes by affirming David and Solomon as exemplary figures, announcing that the next sermon in four weeks will continue the series with "A Father's Instruction, Part 3," focusing on Solomon's teachings and the role of fear in motivating "if-then" statements. He offers an invitation for those needing prayers, signaling the sermon's end while setting the stage for future exploration of biblical instruction.