Intro: 9 How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. 10 With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! 11 I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. 12 Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes! 13 With my lips I declare all the rules of your mouth. 14 In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches. 15 I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. 16 I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.

I. By Guarding the Word that will direct their path –9 How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word.

a. Here is a challenge for young people

• Before the first # challenge there was the word of God challenging the young people to live a pure life by using the word of God. If you want to be a rebel young people live the word of God. The rest of your friends find out that you are not like them, so that is a real rebel the one who follows God. We are rebelling against how Christian are treated, how God is treated and how the word is ignored.

b. We are to protect God’s word

• The word “guarding” means to put a hedge about (as with thorns), to protect. Today we have a problem with protecting the word of God. We have no feelings about the word of God unless Selah will sing about it. I love Selah and they are one of my favorite groups in Christian music, but if you’re getting you word of God from Selah singing then need to do some self-examination of your walk with God.

II. By Seeking the word of God Completely – 10 With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments!

a. We fully seek God with a committed heart

• The first step to a pure pathway is to commit your life to Christ. Jesus saves us from our sins, but it is our commitment to Christ that keeps our path way open to the destination that is called heaven. And this is a full commitment, not some half-hearted attempt to serve him. This is a full, complete, committed, to the ways of a pure life. How committed are you?

b. It is God’s word that keeps us from wondering

• It is not your latest bill that congress passes, it is not the early edition to your new app, it is not the latest number one best seller, that keeps you from wondering away from God, in fact these things may tend to pull you away from Christ. It is the word of God that is the only thing that will keep you from wondering away from God. His word is true, holy, perfect, and honest. Nothing is more valuable to a Christian than the Word of God.

III. By Storing up the word in their hearts – 11 I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

a. We should learn how to can the word of God

• The word “store” to hideby coveringover. Something like when you can your food. You go through the process, you prepare the fruit or vegetables for canning, then you put the lid on them and seal the contents and store them up for that day when you need them. Much the same way, but spiritually speaking of course. We read, we study, we learn, we go through the process and then we store up God’s word in our heart so on that day when we need it, we will have it ready for use.

b. The word of God keeps us from sinning

• This is much the same thing as in the previous verse. Seeking the word of God keeps us from wondering and learning the word of God keeps us from sinning.

IV. By learning the word of God – 12 Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes!

a. We learn the word of God by memorizing it

• This goes along with the last verse “I have stored up Your word in my heart”. In other words, I have memorized your words so that I can learn to use it against my enemies.

b. We learn the word of God by studying it

• I’m not just talking about memorizing scripture but breaking down scripture for deep in-depth study of what was said, why it was said, and how does this apply to me today. In Psalm 1:2 the word “mediate or study” speaks of what a cow does after grazing all day. As she chews the cud over and over again, she extracts every nutrient. In other words, to meditate means to ponder a section of the Word daily, extracting more from its limitless supply each time.

V. By Proclaiming to others the word of God – 13 With my lips I declare all the rules of your mouth.

a. We proclaim God’s word as authentic

• Is the word of God true? Here are some but just a few examples of the authenticity of God’s word.

° Gravity - English physician and mathematician **Isaac Newton** discovered the existence of gravity in the 1680s. The Bible had already talked about gravity – “24 Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. John 12:24

° The round earth – Augustine, Christopher Columbus believed that the world was round. The “shape of the earth” was not in question in Columbus’s day. “Columbus, like all educated people of his time, knew that the world was round…." ((Zvi Dor-Ner, Columbus and the Age of Discovery (New York: William Morrow, 1991), pg. 72. “22 It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in;” Isaiah 40:22

° Water cycle – It was discovered by Norwegian-American meteorologist, Jacob Aall Bonnevie Bjerknes in 1957. He was born on Nov 2, 1897, in Sweden. He worked at the University of Leipzig in Germany. “6 who builds his upper chambers in the heavens and founds his vault upon the earth, who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out upon the surface of the earth— the Lord is his name.” Amos 9:6

b. We declare God’s word as Holy Inspired

• There is nothing, and I mean nothing, that is more inspired in our world today, than the word of God. It has been proven true time and time again, it has stand and weather the test of time, and there is nothing that precedes it, and nothing will come after it that is more important to the life of mankind, PERIOD!!!!

c. We proclaim God’s word to all the world

• We just think that the word of God is good for only us in America, but we believe it is for all the world to follow. The Brit’s don’t have their way to follow the word, and we have ours. But we all are to live by

the same word of God.

VI. By Delighting in the testimonies of God’s riches – 14 In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches.

a. We should delight in the word of God

b. God’s word is greater than all the riches you can obtain

• The word delight means “to be glad, to be grateful, joy, make cheer, rejoice. In other words, God’s word is so much greater in worth than all the riches in the world.

VII. By Meditating on the word of God – 15 I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways.

a. Meditating does not mean we are cults

• We are not talking about mediating the same way a Buddhist or some other cults teaches. When we talk about meditating, we are talking about thinks about what we have study on in the word of God. Not trying to align our inner being with some zodiac sign that is linked to the month you were born. The Christian meditation is totally different. Our meditation is dwelling and thinking about the word of God.

b. We should have our eyes fixed on His ways

• Not our ways, not our will, not our life, but his ways and will for our life.

VII. By not Forgetting God’s Word of God – 16 I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.

a. We won’t forget how his words guides us

b. We won’t forget our favorite verse that helps us – Everyone please turn to Ps. 118:14.