



Pastor PJ Berner • July 19, 2026



Psalm 119:81-88 | At Odds: Faithful. Dependent. Useful.

Scripture Memory

“Consider how I love your precepts! Give me life, O LORD, according to your steadfast love. The sum of your word is truth, and every one of your righteous rules endures forever.” – Psalm 119:159-160

Application Questions

Community Groups meet throughout the week and play a crucial role in our response to the preaching of the word. These groups gather to discuss the following questions as we seek to apply the sermon in community with one another. Please visit compassntx.org to join a small group near you.

1. Can you share a specific time when your love for the Lord and commitment to His Word put you in a difficult situation in this world?
2. Read **Psalm 119:81-82**. When you consider your life, what have you longed for like the psalmist in this verse? How have you seen the Lord change your desires since you became a Christian, and what desires do you sense Him cultivating in your life currently?
3. In **Psalm 119:86**, the psalmist moves from theology to petition. When you go through tough times, do you lean more on your theology (what you know to be true about God) or on your prayer life (what you are asking God to do)? Why are both important to our response to adversity, and how should they complement each other?
4. Read **Psalm 119:88** and **Philippians 2:3-8**. In Philippians 2, Paul connects an others-focused attitude to the example of Jesus’ suffering and death on the cross. How does that help encourage you not to sideline yourself while suffering? How have you seen God use you through your suffering to be a blessing to others and a platform for His glory?
5. How has this summer’s study of Psalm 119 made a difference in your approach to the Scriptures? Has one passage or verse stood out to you in particular?

Recommended Reading

Here are some books that may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today’s sermon. While we cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, we do believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today’s topic.

- *Desiring God* - John Piper
- *When I Don’t Desire God* - John Piper
- *Praying the Bible* - Donald Whitney