

Defeating Discouragement

When David was a young boy his tools to defeat the enemy, Goliath, were a slingshot and one smooth stone. However, that stone, and David's strength, were not the reason for David's victory; it was the power of God! We read in Ephesians 6 that, to have victory over our enemy the devil, God has given us tools, as well—our Bibles, prayer and His power.

An often-used and effective tool of the devil is discouragement. Down-spiraling discouragement leads to depression and worse. "A prudent man foreseeth the evil . . ." (Proverbs 22:3).

God wants us to be prepared and to "be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might" (Ephesians 6:10), and when discouragement strikes, or any other tool in Satan's tool belt, "take . . . the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God" (Ephesians 6:17).

- Ponder God's Promises. He loves you, is always with you and holds your hand (Romans 8:35–37; Hebrews 13:5; Isaiah 41:13).
- Place your Trust in God's power. He is in control. He works all things for good (Proverbs 19:21; Romans 8:28).
- Proclaim His Praise. Praise defeats the enemy (2 Chronicles 20:1–22).

"Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him" (Psalm 42:11). These words from David in the Bible should inspire us to grab hold of God's power and defeat discouragement.

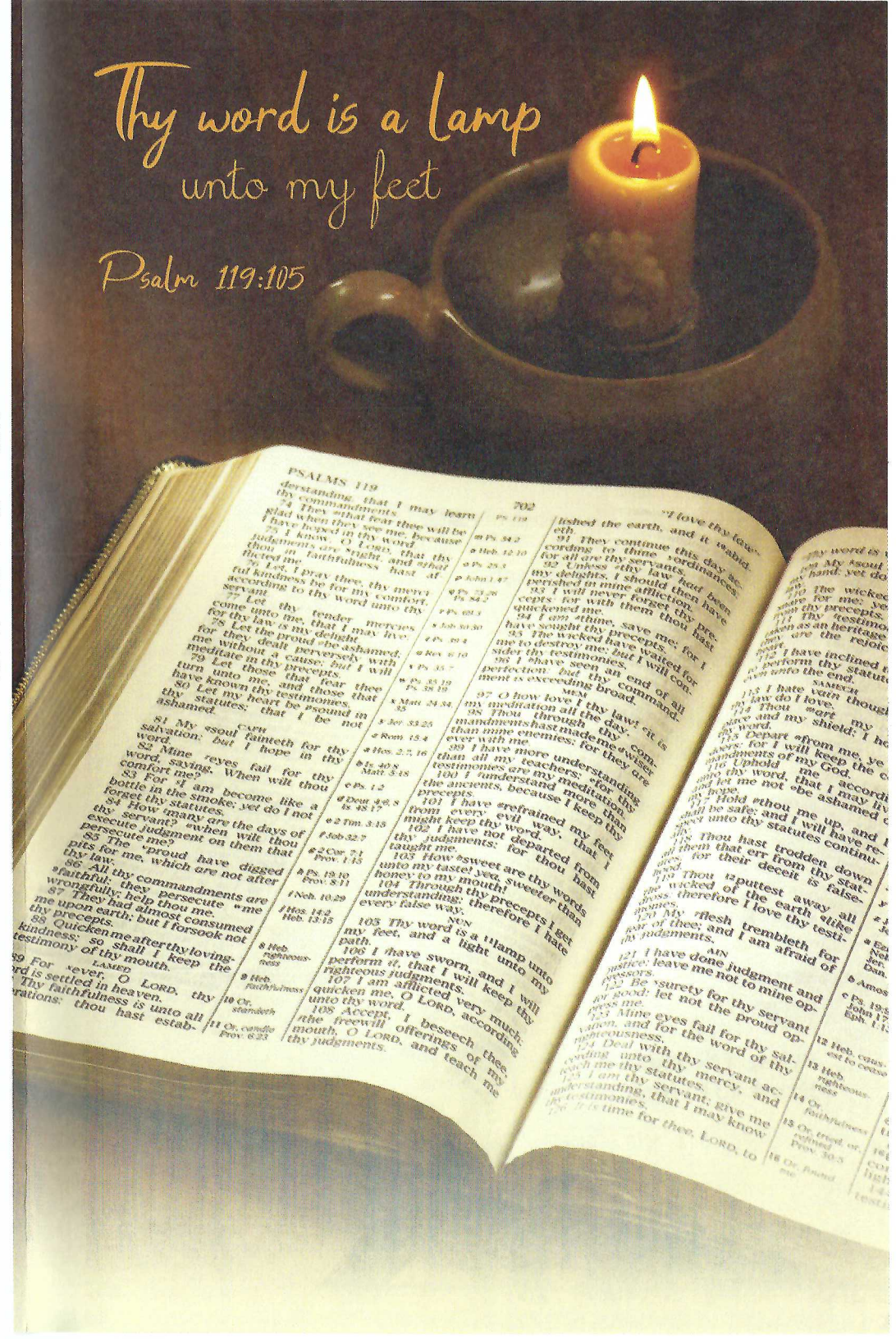
"Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory . . . Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name" (1 Chronicles 29:11, 13).

Lucinda J. Rollings

©MKucova/Stock • Printed in USA

Thy word is a lamp
unto my feet

Psalm 119:105



Covenant Church

3115 N.W. 16th Avenue Gainesville FL 32605

March 17, 2024

Call to Worship

Sounds of Hope

Invocation

Pastor Don Mauldin

Sing Unto the Lord

Hymn # 329 There's Power in the Blood

Welcome and Announcements

Recognition of Guests

Mission Moment

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Worship in Song

Hymn # 330 Are You Washed?

Offertory Prayer

Craig Alexander

Offertory

Rose Morgan

Special Music

Sermon:

Pastor Don Mauldin

Scripture:

Hymn of Benediction

Hymn #319 Near the Cross

Shine, Shine, Shine!

Covenant Ministries

Our ministry for March is the St. Francis House. Their mission is empowering families with children to achieve permanent and stable self-sufficiency by providing case management; nutritious meals; and educational, health and career resources; in a safe and secure environment.

Sentence Sermons

1 cross, plus 3 nails, equals 4 given

A Bible in hand is worth two on the shelf.

A fault recognized is half corrected.

A pessimist has no starter. An optimist has no brakes.

All sore and weak from Backsliding? Try Pew Sitting and Knee Bends.

At the heart of sin is the letter "I".

Breathe in God's Spirit, exhale God's love.

Coincidence is when God chooses to remain anonymous.



Good Friday Service

Friday, March 29th at 5:00 p.m.