

Lesson 19: Psalm 119:145-152 – *Qoph*

A Call for Help Based on God's Word

<i>ESV</i>	<i>NKJV</i>	<i>NASB</i>	<i>NIV</i>	<i>NLT</i>
145 With my whole heart I cry; answer me, O Lord! I will keep your statutes.	145 I cry out with my whole heart; Hear me, O Lord! I will keep Your statutes.	145 I cried with all my heart; answer me, O Lord! I will observe Your statutes.	145 I call with all my heart; answer me, O Lord, and I will obey your decrees.	145 I pray with all my heart; answer me, Lord! I will obey your decrees.
145 I cry out to You with my whole heart: Hear and answer me, O Lord! I will obey Your statutes.				
<p>Commentary: With my whole heart I cry; answer me, O Lord! Wholehearted prayer. Intensity, fervency, desperation in prayer. I will keep your statutes. Commitment to obey God's Word motivated by gratitude that God hears and answers his prayers. Determination to obey.</p>				
<p>Application: "Please help me to be wholehearted in my prayers to You, O Lord, and determined in my obedience to Your Word. Thank You that You listen to and answer my prayers."</p>				
146 I call to you; save me, that I may observe your testimonies.	146 I cry out to You; Save me, and I will keep Your testimonies.	146 I cried to You; save me And I shall keep Your testimonies.	146 I call out to you; save me and I will keep your statutes.	146 I cry out to you; rescue me, that I may obey your laws.
146 I cry out to You, O Lord: Save me and I will obey Your statutes.				
<p>Commentary: I call to you; save me. Complete dependence on God for his well-being.</p>				
<p>Application: "Dear Lord, I want to be totally dependent on You for all things. Please give me a deep, unwavering determination to be obedient to Your Word."</p>				
147 I rise before dawn and cry for help; I hope in your words.	147 I rise before the dawning of the morning, And cry for help; I hope in Your word.	147 I rise before dawn and cry for help; I wait for Your words.	147 I rise before dawn and cry for help; I have put my hope in your word.	147 I rise early, before the sun is up; I cry out for help and put my hope in your words.

147 I rise before dawn and cry for help; I put my hope in Your words.

Commentary:

I rise before dawn and cry for help. Jesus modeled rising before dawn to speak with His Father and listen for His voice. (Mark 1:35)

Note the connection between prayer and the Word. In prayer, we speak to God. Through His Word, God speaks to us.

I hope in your words. Nothing in this world can provide the hope that the Lord provides through His Word.

Application:

“Dear Lord, please help me to put my hope fully in Your Word. When I am hoping in Your Word, I am hoping in You.”

“Thank You, Lord, for the hope that I find in Your Word. I acknowledge my complete dependence on You for all things.”

148 My eyes are awake before the watches of the night, that I may meditate on your promise.

148 My eyes are awake through the night watches, That I may meditate on Your word.

148 My eyes anticipate the night watches, That I may meditate on Your word.

148 My eyes stay open through the watches of the night, that I may meditate on your promises.

148 I stay awake through the night, thinking about your promise.

148 I stay awake through the watches of the night, that I may meditate on the promises of Your Word.

Commentary:

My eyes are awake before the watches of the night. “The Jews had only three watches during the night: (1) sunset-10:00 p.m., (2) 10 p.m.-2:00 a.m. and (3) 2:00 a.m.-sunrise...” (NIV Study Bible, footnote on Matthew 14:25, p. 1463. Cp. Judges 7:19, p. 342)

That I may meditate on your promise. “Listening” to God through His Word (meditation) is the other side of prayer. Bible reading and prayer should be like an intimate conversation between two close friends.

He was willing to sacrifice sleep to be in the Word. The importance of meditating on God’s Word.

Application:

“Thank You, Lord, for the privilege of entering into intimate conversation with You. Help me to understand what You say and to respond sincerely, with transparency, to You. Please help me to make meditation on Your Word a top priority in my life.”

149 Hear my voice according to your steadfast love; O Lord, according to your justice give me life.

149 Hear my voice according to Your lovingkindness; O Lord, revive me according to Your justice.

149 Hear my voice according to Your lovingkindness; Revive me, O Lord, according to Your ordinances.

149 Hear my voice in accordance with your love; preserve my life, O Lord, according to your laws.

149 In your faithful love, O Lord, hear my cry; let me be revived by following your regulations.

149 Hear my voice in accordance with Your steadfast love; give me life (revive me), O Lord, according to Your justice.

<p>Commentary: Hear my voice according to your steadfast love. When we pray in accordance with the character of God, we have the assurance that He hears us. It is God’s love for us that moves Him to listen to our prayers. O Lord, according to your justice give me life. Spiritual revival comes through the Word of God.</p>				
<p>Application: “Thank You for Your steadfast, unfailing love for me. Please help me to never doubt Your love for me. Thank You for hearing and listening to my prayers. Please give me life, revive me, according to Your mercy. Please do NOT deal with me in justice—I do not deserve any good thing from You! If You deal with me in justice, I will perish!”</p>				
<p>150 They draw near who persecute me with evil purpose; they are far from your law.</p>	<p>150 They draw near who follow after wickedness; They are far from Your law.</p>	<p>150 Those who follow after wickedness draw near; They are far from Your law.</p>	<p>150 Those who devise wicked schemes are near, but they are far from your law.</p>	<p>150 Lawless people are coming to attack me; they live far from your instructions.</p>
<p>150 Those who persecute me with evil purpose draw near; they are far from Your law.</p>				
<p>Commentary: They draw near who persecute me with evil purpose. The psalmist used God’s Word to evaluate the motives and activities of those around him. His enemies followed wickedness rather than the Word of God.</p>				
<p>Application: “Please help me to evaluate and see clearly, on the basis of Your Word, the motives and activities of others.”</p>				
<p>151 But you are near, O Lord, and all your commandments are true.</p>	<p>151 You are near, O Lord, And all Your commandments are truth.</p>	<p>151 You are near, O Lord, And all Your commandments are truth.</p>	<p>151 Yet you are near, O Lord, and all your commands are true.</p>	<p>151 But you are near, O Lord, and all your commands are true.</p>
<p>151 But You are near, O Lord, and all Your commandments are true.</p>				
<p>Commentary: All your commandments are true. In a world that is full of lies, God’s Word is eternally true.</p>				
<p>Application: “Thank You that You desire to have fellowship (draw near) with me. Thank You that You have revealed the truth in Your Word.”</p>				
<p>152 Long have I known from your testimonies that you have founded them forever.</p>	<p>152 Concerning Your testimonies, I have known of old that You</p>	<p>152 Of old I have known from Your testimonies That You have founded them forever.</p>	<p>152 Long ago I learned from your statutes that you established them to last forever.</p>	<p>152 I have known from my earliest days that your laws will last forever.</p>

	<p>have founded them forever.</p>			
<p>152 I have known for a long time, based on Your testimonies, that You established them to last forever.</p>				
<p>Commentary: That you have founded them forever. God's Word is eternal.</p>				
<p>Application: "Thank You, Lord, that Your Word is eternal. I will always have it to guide, comfort and help me."</p>				
<p>Qoph 145 I cry out to You with my whole heart: Hear and answer me, O Lord! I will obey Your statutes. 146 I cry out to You, O Lord: Save me and I will obey Your statutes. 147 I rise before dawn and cry for help; I put my hope in Your words. 148 I stay awake through the watches of the night, that I may meditate on the promises of Your Word. 149 Hear my voice in accordance with Your steadfast love; give me life (revive me), O Lord, according to Your justice. 150 Those who persecute me with evil purpose draw near; they are far from Your law. 151 But You are near, O Lord, and all Your commandments are true. 152 I have known for a long time, based on Your testimonies, that You established them to last forever.</p>				