FAMILY LESSONS ON THE ROOT OF PROSPERITY

Based on Psalm 1:2-3
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LESSON #1 GOLD COINS

"But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers."

Psalm 1:2-3 (NIV84)

Once or twice a week I give away gold coins to students during morning arrival. Actually they are chocolate coins wrapped in gold foil. They are for students who want to recite a Bible verse and answer a short question about the verse. A student once asked me, "What do chocolate coins have to do with memorizing God's Word?" I thought that was a very good question. So I told her what King David said about God's instructions and commands, "They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb" (Psalm 19:10). David often talked about how much he delighted in God's law and that it was more valuable to him than silver and gold (Psalm 119:72).

One of the characteristics of the "blessed" person in Psalm 1 is that he or she "delights" in God's law (God's written word). That means the one who is blessed actually gets excited about the Bible. But I have to admit that when I was young, I found it difficult to get excited about the Bible. It often seemed like a big book with lots of big words that were hard to understand. But I discovered over time that the verses I memorized became like old friends. The more I visited them, the stronger that friendship grew. Today those verses are the ones I truly delight in and come back to visit often. David said, "Your word I have **treasured** in my heart..." (Psalm 119:11 -- NASB). That's exactly what you do whenever you memorize God's Word. It is like treasuring pieces of gold in your heart where you can delight in them and benefit from them for the rest of your life. It's like storing treasure, even more valuable than gold, in a place where no one can ever take it from you.

See for yourself all the valuable things David says about God's Word (Psalm 19:7-11).

For additional study materials on the Bonus Verse and a copy of the "Ten Step Bible Memory Method for Life," go to www.icsva.org/student-life/bonus-verse on the Immanuel Christian School website.