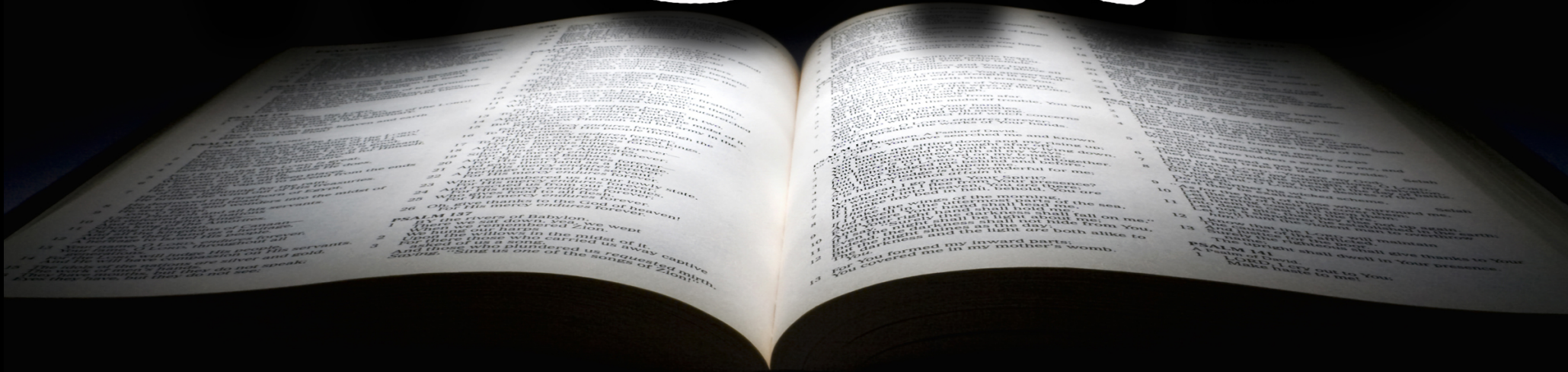


The FIRST & the last

WORD



EXAMINING THE PURPOSE & POWER OF GOD'S WORD

Psalm 119:9-16

⁹ How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word.

¹⁰ I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands.

¹¹ I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

¹² Praise be to you, Lord; teach me your decrees.

¹³ With my lips I recount all the laws that come from your mouth.

¹⁴ I rejoice in following your statutes as one rejoices in great riches.

¹⁵ I meditate on your precepts
and consider your ways.

¹⁶ I delight in your decrees; I will
not neglect your word.



Scott McConnell, executive director of Lifeway Research said, “This research asked churchgoers about many biblical characteristics to see which actions, beliefs and desires are present in the lives of followers of Christ.... Among them, ***Bible reading was one of the most predictive of spiritual maturity.***”



“Jesus’ prayer for His followers was that they would be sanctified (set apart) by the truth of God’s Word, (John 17:17)” said McConnell.

“It’s not surprising that the lives of those who spend time reading the Bible look more like Christ.”



McConnell went on to say,

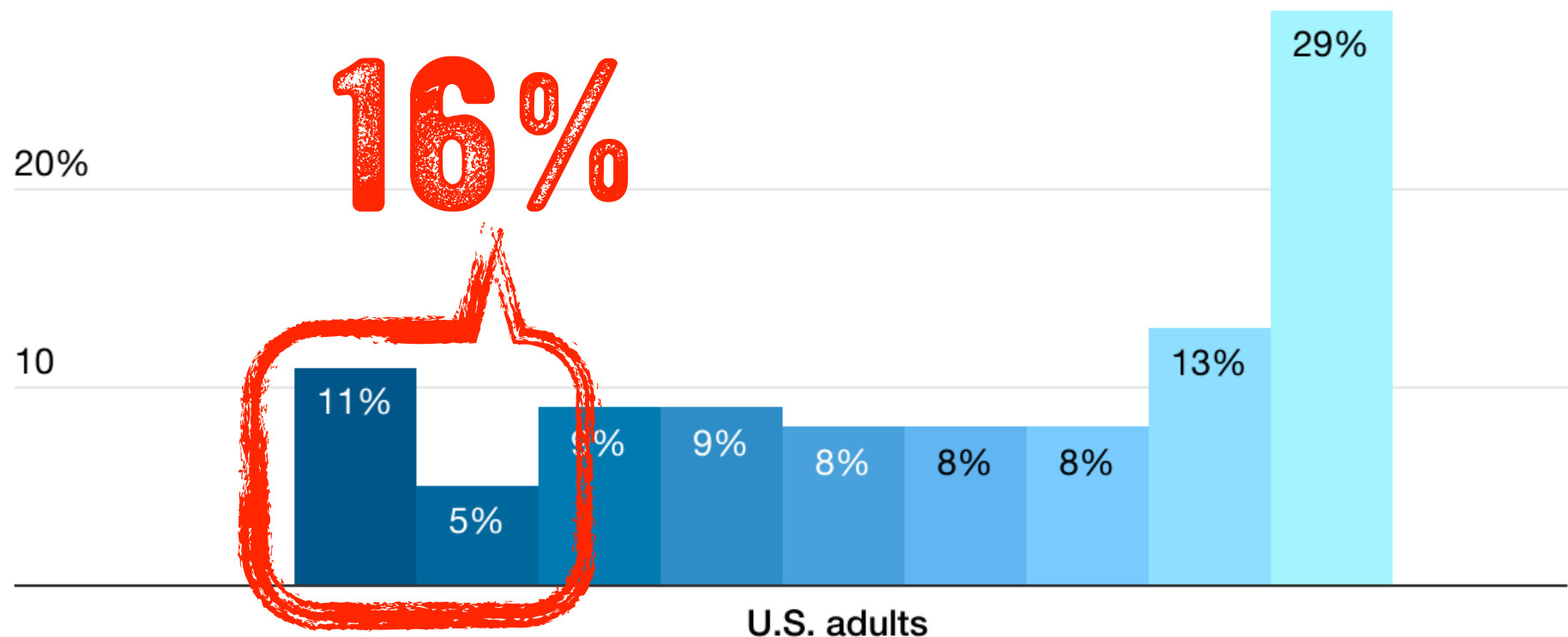
“Americans treat reading the Bible a little bit like exercise. They know it’s important and helpful but they don’t do it.”

BIBLE USE FREQUENCY AMONG U.S. ADULTS—2021

Barna

How often do you use the Bible on your own?

- Daily (7 days a week)
- Four+ (4-6) times a week
- Several (2-3) times a week
- Once a week
- Once a month
- Three or four times a year
- Once or twice a year
- Less than once a year
- Never



30 MINUTES PER DAY

What percentage of people spend 30 minutes or more each day engaging with the following activities?



Email 70%



TV 59%



Books 55%



Hobbies 42%



Podcasts 32%



Housework 55%



Social 62%

30 MINUTES PER DAY

How much could you read spending
30 minutes with your Bible every day?

<i>the Gospel of</i> MARK	3 <i>days</i>
<i>the</i> EPISTLES & REVELATION	15 <i>days</i>

30 MINUTES PER DAY

How much could you read spending
30 minutes with your Bible every day?

the
NEW TESTAMENT

40
days

the
OLD TESTAMENT

120
days

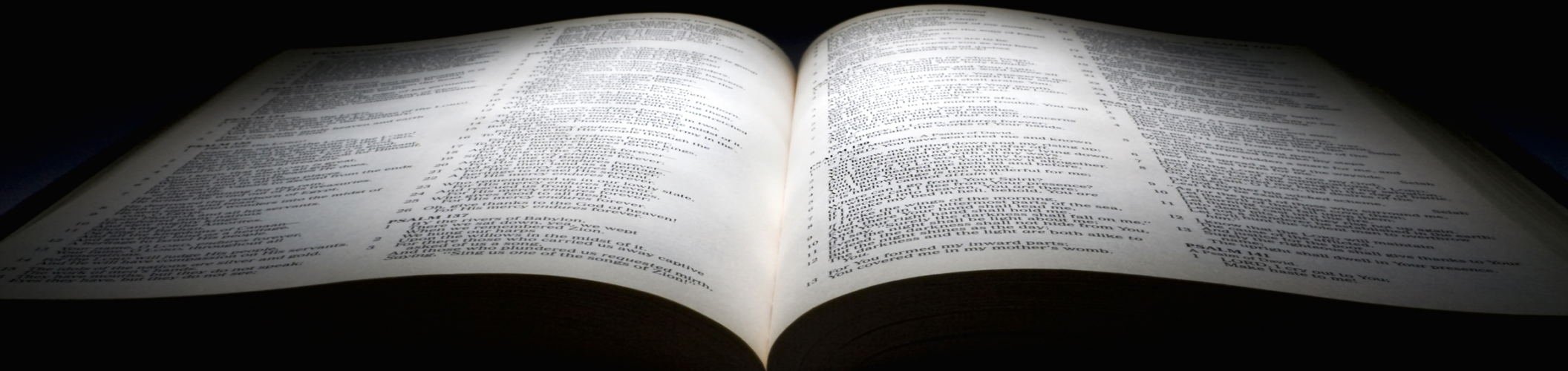
the
WHOLE BIBLE

160
days

Any of the 4 books about Jesus' life (the gospels) can be read through in about 2 hours.

That's 24 minutes a day for 5.

John 8:37 “In fact, the reason I
was born and came into the
world is to testify to the truth”



There are about 260 direct quotes or allusions to the Old Testament. *Just in the 4 stories about Jesus life.*

Jesus believed the people and places in the Bible were real:

- **He believed in the PROPHETS
(Matt. 22:40; 24:15)**
- **He believed in NOAH (Luke 17:26)**
- **He believed in ADAM and EVE (Matt. 19:4)**
- **He believed in SODOM and GOMORRAH
(Matt. 10:15)**
- **He believed in JONAH (Matt. 12-40)**

Bible



the

BIBLE

PROJECT

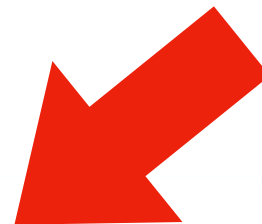
**WATCH THE BIBLE IN A
YEAR ON OUR WEBSITE:
WWW.SIERRA.CHURCH**



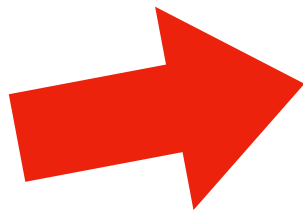
Bible



Share



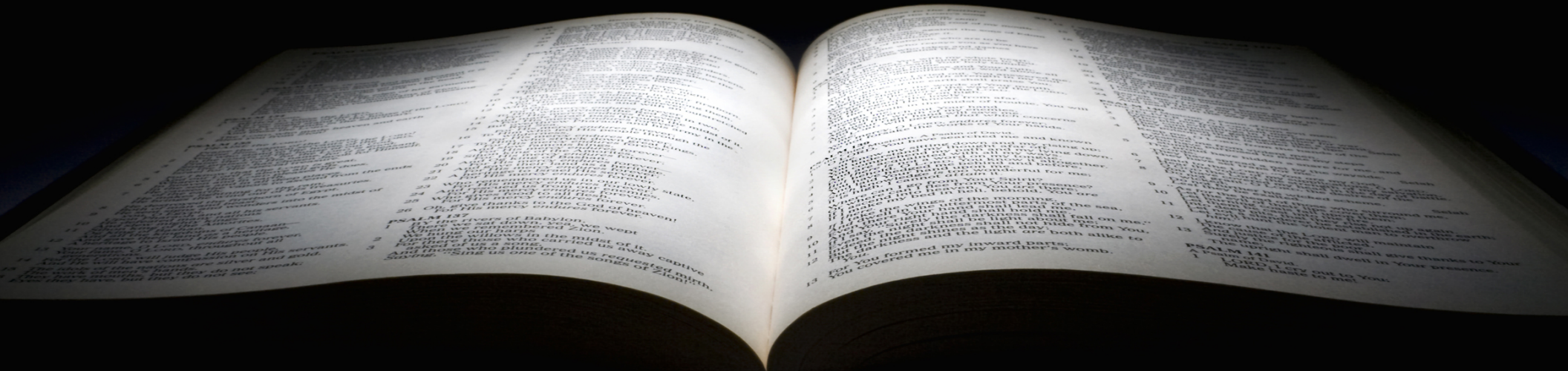
Prayer



Community



Luke 11:28 “Blessed are
those who hear the word
of God and obey it!”



1 Getting Good Directions

A good map is an essential part of any successful trip. God has provided excellent directions for the journey of life. It answers the basic questions of life. It tells us who God is, what He has done for us, and how we can follow Him. We ignore the directions (truth) in the Bible at our own peril.

2 What are you filling up on?

Nobody eats one meal a week believing it's sufficient to get them through the week. Yet some people believe that reading or listening to the what Bible says once a week is enough to get them through the week! Jesus says (quoting Deut. 8:3), "people do not live on bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). Are you feasting and filling up on the Bible daily?