

Dear Open Door Family,

One of the things that I love is that we have the privilege of being able to look at numerous good translations of the Bible. I like that because I have done a lot of translating in English and Spanish. I know that many times there are several good and accurate options for how something is translated. As I look at different translations of the Bible it makes me think and compare the words and phrases. Many times it is just a word that is used differently or in a different order that catches my attention. But as I compare them, I'm thinking and praying and asking God to touch me with HIS WORD. When it comes to the poetry of the Old Testament we know it is very difficult to capture the essence of the Hebrew perfectly. That is another reason I love looking at 3-4 different translations when I am studying. In this Psalm I really enjoy the New Living and the Message they really made me stop and think. May we be thankful for the wonderful gift that we have of multiple English translations of the Bible. Especially when we remember that there are many people who do not even have the whole Bible in their own language. Let's look at these verses together.

Psalm 19:11-14 (NLT) *They [God's Commands] are a warning to those who hear them; there is great reward for those who obey them. [12] How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart? Cleanse me from these hidden faults. [13] Keep me from deliberate sins! Don't let them control me. Then I will be free of guilt and innocent of great sin. [14] May the words of my mouth and the thoughts of my heart be pleasing to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.*

PSALM 19:11-14 (MSG)...God's Word warns us of danger... [13] Clean the slate, God, so we can start the day fresh! Keep me from stupid sins, from thinking I can take over your work; Then I can start this day sun-washed, scrubbed clean of the grime of sin. [14] These are the words in my mouth; these are what I chew on and pray..)

David tells us that God's Word is also a WARNING, to anyone who will listen, to anyone who will seek to hear what God has to say. His Word makes clear even those sins and faults that we keep hidden away. I Love David's prayer... *"don't let them (sins) control me."* Am I willing to pray like David that sin would have no part in controlling my life? The last verse reminds us of what our attitude should be each day. We should pray that All the words that come out of our mouths and All the thoughts that travel around in our minds might please and honor God.

PRAYER: Lord God, you know everything including my thoughts and my motives. Please Lord, help my thoughts to be focused on You and Your Word. Help me to be so completely captivated by Your Word that I am changed by it. May that change be so dramatic that my words and thoughts actually reflect You accurately and completely.

Pastor Mark Kieft

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