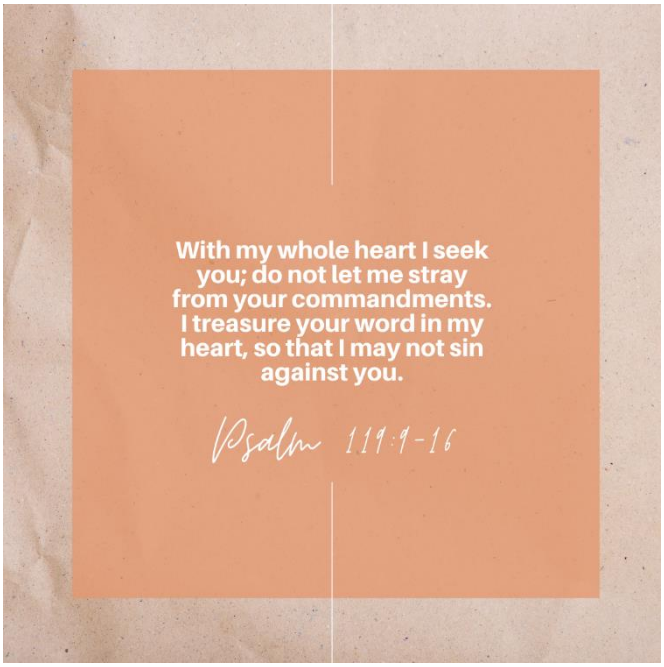
March 21, 2021 Lenten Devotional
Psalm 119:9-16 – “Seeking the Lord”
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How can young people keep their way pure?
By guarding it according to your word.
With my whole heart I seek you;
do not let me stray from your commandments.
I treasure your word in my heart,
so that I may not sin against you.
Blessed are you, O Lord;
teach me your statutes.
With my lips I declare
all the ordinances of your mouth.
I delight in the way of your decrees
as much as in all riches.
I will meditate on your precepts,
and fix my eyes on your ways.
I will delight in your statutes;
I will not forget your word.

-Psalm 119:9-16

Reflection
Well hot diggity dog, there it is. Seven verses to keep your way pure. The psalmist makes it seem so straightforward: seek the Lord with all your heart, obey God’s commandments, and read the Word and treasure it. It is written with such simplicity and grace that after reading it I thought “Well yeah, seems easy enough!”, but, in my experience, it is anything but easy. The world is so busy and even more complicated. Between school, work, sleep, a social life, and everything else going on, how am I supposed to do these things regarded by the psalmist as the way to keep a pure heart. To have a pure heart I need to take a step back. I’m not sure that anyone can do everything the psalmist suggests perfectly. In our imperfect world we must find imperfect ways to keep our eyes set on God. By showing each other grace, love, and forgiveness, we are able to live out God’s word (even when we may not have time to read the Word). We can seek the Lord by noticing the Lord in our everyday lives, in the mundane and ordinary, rather than only in the excitement and joy of life. Reading the words of the psalmist can overwhelm me at times, these seven verses seem out of reach and nearly impossible in my day-to-day life, filled with meetings and appointments. These seven verses provide us with an outline to keep our eyes towards God. As unobtainable as they may seem, I think there are so many ways for us to show God’s love and joy to others to keep our hearts pure and focused on God.

How can you show the joy and grace of Christ throughout the chaos of our lives?