

“Do not snatch your word of truth from me, for your regulations are my only hope. I will keep on obeying your instructions forever and ever. I will walk in freedom, for I have devoted myself to your commandments.” Psalms 119:43-45 NLT

## lectio // Psalm 119:41-48

This is interesting that David would be concerned that God would “snatch” or take His word from David. What does that mean? Would God remove his word? It makes me think of what happens when the “seed” that Jesus spoke of, falls on shallow, hard or thorny ground. It doesn’t produce. It also reminds me of the Pharaoh in Moses’ day. Every time God’s word (absolute truth) was presented to Pharaoh, Pharaoh resisted and did not obey. Things escalated until Pharaoh’s heart hardened until obedience was impossible. This is what happens when we stubbornly resist and demand our own way over God’s will. That “hardening” has devastating effects on our our life and future decisions. Notice, the Psalmist associates obedience with walking in freedom. Obedience TO God’s word means freedom, disobedience means enslavement.

## oratio

Dad,

I have personally experienced both freedom through obedience and enslavement through disobedience. Disobedience ends up being frustrating, hard and completely unfulfilling, but it felt so “independent” and self-willed, only to find out that I was exercising my selfishness and not learning and leaning into your will. It’s a sad way to learn. Thank you for your patience towards me.

## contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root