



## **WOW: Word Of the Week**

**Mud**

**March 29, 2023**

The call to worship on Sunday was taken from Psalm 119:133. The KJV reading says, “Order my steps in thy word.” The Septuagint, the Greek translation of the Hebrew Old Testament says, “Make my footsteps straight,” in the sense of guiding or directing aright. The original Hebrew verb presents numerous possibilities: literally, to establish; figuratively, to make to prosper. Contemporary translations give insight. Note the variety and the similarity in the ESV (keep my steps steady), ASV (establish my footsteps in your word), BBE (let my steps be guided by your word), and God’s Word (make my steps secure).

The illustration that Larry Moore used to call us to worship God was the instruction frequently given to children, “Don’t step in the mud!” Watch where you step! In Kids’ Time, we sometimes sing, “O Be Careful Little Feet Where You Go!”

Here’s the truth of the matter. Our footsteps determine the way we go. Do we walk in the path of Jesus or in the path of the world?

Psalm 119 focuses on the word of God. Different descriptions of the word of God appear in every verse of the chapter – 176 verses! (The entire chapter may not be the greatest choice for a public Scripture reading—especially on a Wednesday night!) One antidote to guard against walking in the mud is the prayer: Lord, order my steps, help me walk straight, guide me, establish my path in your word, steady and secure. And may my steps be consistent and firmly grounded in your word.

Larry suggested that such a prayer is especially appropriate as we enter a time of worship and praise together. He also observed the beauty of such a prayer to begin the day. “Lord, on this day, firmly establish my steps in your word.”

Here’s a challenge for today, perhaps for the rest of this week. Or you may choose to include this idea in your prayers daily. “Lord, make my steps steady, certain, and secure. Help me so that I don’t step in the mud!”