

## **Psalm 119:9-16<sup>iv</sup>**

How shall a young man cleanse his way? \*  
By keeping to your words.  
With my whole heart I seek you; \*  
let me not stray from your commandments.  
I treasure your promise in my heart, \*  
that I may not sin against you.  
Blessed are you, O LORD; \*  
instruct me in your statutes.  
With my lips will I recite \*  
all the judgments of your mouth.  
I have taken greater delight in the way of your decrees \*  
than in all manner of riches.  
I will meditate on your commandments \*  
and give attention to your ways.  
My delight is in your statutes; \*  
I will not forget your word.

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### **<sup>iv</sup> About the Alternative Psalm: Psalm 119:9-16**

This psalm is an acrostic psalm, in which the first line of each of its 22 eight-line stanzas begins with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet. It is the longest in the Bible. In this reading, the psalmist describes the virtue of young people who take delight in the commandments outlined in the Law found in the Torah. In doing so, they gain not only ritual purity, but draw close to God.