

Bible Reading

We need God's Word more than we need physical sustenance.

Regularly reading Scripture is important because it informs and fuels the other personal spiritual disciplines.

1. Remember Who's Speaking

- a. God, the living God, the one who spoke the world into existence and continues to uphold it by His power, *He* is the one who speaks in the words of Scripture.
- b. It's not simply His power and authority that should make us eager to hear from Him, for He is also our Redeemer.
- c. Recognizing God as the one who is speaking should also give us greater confidence in Scripture's reliability and power.

2. Have the Right Posture

- a. Since it's God who is speaking to us in the words of Scripture, it only makes sense that we would approach our Bible reading with a sense of awe, submission, and glad dependence.
- b. A right heart posture in our Bible reading also involves a sense of longing and delight.
- c. Having the right posture in our Bible reading involves recognizing that we need help.

3. Make a Plan

- a. Being consistent in your Bible reading requires some intentionality.
- b. Try to find a time when distractions are limited and when you are not ready to fall asleep.
- c. Be intentional rather than basing your reading on whatever page you flip to that morning or whatever mood you happen to be in.

4. Read Deep and Wide

- a. Avoid the danger of racing through your Bible reading without stopping to think carefully about the truths you're encountering.
- b. Avoid focusing all your time on your favorite passages, books, and topics in the Bible.
- c. Read widely across both testaments, from Genesis to Revelation.

5. Stick With It

- a. Think of your daily Bible reading more like a marathon than a sprint.
- b. God uses his Word to shape our thoughts, desires, attitudes, and actions, often in ways that we're not aware of.
- c. Your aim in Bible reading is to grow in your love for God.

Challenge for this week:

1. Take a daily break (15 minutes) from your device and be attentive to the Holy Spirit as you read.
2. Take practical steps to ensure that reading the Bible becomes a regular part of your life.