

# How Do I Read the Bible?

## What? So What? Now What?

- **What? - Put what you read in your own words**
  - What type of book was the passage you read? (History, poem, letter, etc.)
  - What happened in the passage you read?
  - Who was involved in the passage?
  - What did the characters in the passage do?
  - Where did that action or message of the passage take place?
  - What are the important parts of the passage? (Figure of speech, verbs, pronouns, etc.)
  - What happened immediately before or after the passage you read?
- **So What? - What did the passage say or mean to the original audience?**
  - How did the original audience hear or experience the passage you read?
  - What did the original author want the original audience to hear, change, or do?
  - What was the message from God to the original audience?
- **Now What? - What message does God have for you?**
  - How is your situation similar to the situation of the original audience? How is it different?
  - What in the passage can you relate to?
  - How can the message God had for the original audience apply to you?
  - What do you think God wants you to learn from the passage?
  - In response to the passage should you do something differently or start doing something new?

## Use a Bible reading plan!

### Pick a plan - any plan will work

- Use an app - Like youverson
- Read a chapter per day - Book of John in 21 days
- Read a subheading per day - Book of Matthew
- Foundational history - Genesis & Exodus
- Crazy stories of God's people - Joshua, Judges, Ruth, Esther
- Looking for wisdom - Read the date in Proverbs (Number of today's date = chapter in Proverbs)
- Want to be a leader? - 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus
- Interested in Theology? - Romans, Colossians
- Practically live out your faith - James