

Read the Bible - 3 How Do I read the Bible

Why read the Bible:

- The Bible gives us the opportunity to see and know God.
- The Bible is alive and powerful
- The Bible has the power to save and to sanctify us
- The Bible is that it shows us God's will.
- The Bible guidance for making our way through life
- The Bible equips and empowers us to serve Him

Last Week

- **The Bible gives us the opportunity to see and know God.**
 - God's unique character - Immutable, Omnipotent, Omniscient, Omnipresent
 - God's shared characteristics - Parts of God character that we share and imitate

This Week

- The Bible is alive and powerful
- The Bible has the power to save and to sanctify us
- The Bible shows us God's will
- The Bible guidance for making our way through life
- The Bible equips and empowers us to serve Him

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?

Practice

Matthew 28:16-20

16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. 17 And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

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Joshua 1:1-9

1 After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord said to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, 2 "Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. 3 Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses. 4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun shall be your territory. 5 No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you. 6 Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. 7 Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. 8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. 9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

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Psalm 23

1 *The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.*

2 *He makes me lie down in green pastures.*

He leads me beside still waters.

3 *He restores my soul.*

He leads me in paths of righteousness

for his name's sake.

4 *Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,*

I will fear no evil,

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff,

they comfort me.

5 *You prepare a table before me*

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

6 *Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

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James 1:19-27

19 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; 20 for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. 21 Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. 24 For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. 25 But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

26 If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. 27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

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2 Timothy 3:10-17

10 You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, 11 my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. 12 Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, 13 while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. 14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it 15 and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

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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