

Cultivating Love for the New Testament



Soils, **ROOTS**, & Fruits Series

Road Map

1. Scripture Reading (James 5:13-18)
2. What is the New Testament?
3. How do/should we read the NT?
4. How do we cultivate love for reading the NT?

1. Scripture Reading- James 5:13-18 CSB

Effective Prayer

13 Is anyone among you suffering? He should pray. Is anyone cheerful? He should sing praises. 14 Is anyone among you sick? He should call for the elders of the church, and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 The prayer of faith will save the sick person, and the Lord will raise him up; if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

Scripture Reading Continued...

16 Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is very powerful in its effect. 17 Elijah was a human being as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the land. 18 Then he prayed again, and the sky gave rain and the land produced its fruit.

2. What is the New Testament?

-Compilation of first century narratives, letters, and apocalyptic literature concerning Jesus' life, death, and resurrection

-27 books

-Testament = Covenant

NEW TESTAMENT BOOKS BY GENRE


GOSPELS — Matthew
Mark
Luke
John

HISTORY —  Acts


PAUL'S LETTERS TO CHURCHES — Romans
1 Corinthians
2 Corinthians
Galatians
Ephesians
Philippians
Colossians
1 Thessalonians
2 Thessalonians


PAUL'S LETTERS TO PEOPLE — 1 Timothy
2 Timothy
Titus
Philemon


LETTERS BY OTHERS — Hebrews
James
1 Peter
2 Peter
1 John
2 John
3 John
Jude


PROPHECY — Revelation

3. How do/should we read the NT?

- Barriers to reading (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8)

 - Lack of Direction

 - No Motivation

- New to reading the Bible

 - Start with the Gospels (Mark or John)

- Seasoned readers

 - Tend your heart (Intimacy with God will help with lacking direction)

4. How do we cultivate love for reading the NT?

-The Bible (Collection of 66 OT/NT books IS the WORD of God)

Hebrews 4:12

-Feed your Strengths, Discipline your Weaknesses

NT content is APPROACHABLE

-Gospels are digestible narratives

-Pauline Letters contain practical direction for contemporary and cultural situations.

4. How do we cultivate love for reading the NT? Continued...

Abide

-Not a chore but a rhythm

“The NT is all about Jesus, Cultivating love for the NT is
Cultivating love for Jesus”

-Partner Reading the Bible with Prayer

James 5:13-18

-Intimacy and Connection with God in other spiritual disciplines
essential for cultivating love for reading the NT.

4. How do we cultivate love for reading the NT? Continued...

My Testimony

Confession and Repentance - “The Unexpected Starting Place”

RESPONSE QUESTIONS...

Do I feel indifferent to the Gospel? (If so, ask God for a fresh understanding in your mind and heart.)

What barriers could be keeping me from connecting with the Bible/the content of the NT?

Am I lacking direction on what to read? (Tend your heart and ask God for direction.)