

A dense forest of evergreen trees, likely spruce or fir, with a wooden boardwalk leading through the center. The trees are lush green, and the lighting is soft, suggesting a misty or overcast day. The boardwalk is made of wooden planks and leads the eye from the bottom center towards the top of the frame.

**R + R**

*restore to me the joy of your salvation and renew a right spirit*

# Nehemiah 8:1-2

And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel. So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month.

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# Nehemiah 8:3-4a

And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. And Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that they had made for the purpose.

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# Nehemiah 8:4b-5

And beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand, and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood.

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# Nehemiah 8:6

And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

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# Nehemiah 8:7-8

Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, the Levites, helped the people to understand the Law, while the people remained in their places. They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

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# *Read for a Change*

I. The approach we should have.

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# *Read for a Change*

- I. The approach we should have.
- II. The means we should use.

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# Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

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# Joshua 1:8

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.

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# I Timothy 4:13

Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.

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# *Read for a Change*

- I. The approach we should have.
- II. The means we should use.
- III. The response we should take.
  - I. Praise Him

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# *Read for a Change*

I. The approach we should have.

II. The means we should use.

III. The response we should take.

I. Praise Him

II. Worship Him

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# *Read for a Change*

- I. The approach we should have.
- II. The means we should use.
- III. The response we should take.
  - I. Praise Him
  - II. Worship Him
  - III. Follow Him

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# I Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

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# Own it:

- What is my heart's attitude as I approach God's Word?

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# Own it:

- What is my heart's attitude as I approach God's Word?
- What has been my response to God's Word this past week?

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# Own it:

- What is my heart's attitude as I approach God's Word?
  - What has been my response to God's Word this past week?
  - I will read for a change by
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