

## **Helps for Good Bible Reading**

**From the “How to Study Your Bible”**

1. Read the Bible Out Loud. - No more quiet times.
2. A Method for Daily Bible Reading: Christ-Centered Meditation – What are the practical steps I should be following in my time with the Lord?
  - a. Listen – Slow, Steady Bible Reading
  - b. Reflect – Isolate the key point of a literary (thought) unit and reflect on a verse(s) that summarize that point.
    - i. Adore God and praise Him for who He is.
    - ii. Confess our sin of falling short of His perfection in this area.
    - iii. Petition God for grace to strive for fuller obedience.
    - iv. KEY: See how Jesus is the perfect expression of this aspect of God’s character and rejoice in how His perfect obedience has been credited to my account.
  - c. Speak – Let the reading of Scripture direct you to prayer and communion with God.
  - d. See – Beyond purely intellectual thought to communion with God through Jesus by the Holy Spirit.
3. The Paradox of Planning – Having a healthy, vibrant, spontaneous relationship with God always happens on the basis of good planning.
  - a. When and Where you will be reading
  - b. What you will be reading
    - i. Big Chunks: Bible Reading plan to systematically take you through the whole Bible.
    - ii. Small Chunks: Repeatedly read through a smaller chunk.
  - c. How you will be reading
    - i. Big Chunks – Think Big picture, don’t slow necessarily slow down.
    - ii. Small Chunks – Use Christ-Centered Method
  - d. Why you will be reading? Your goal: To grow in understanding of the Scriptures and to worship Jesus as you read.
4. Read the Bible as Literature
  - a. The Bible is a book of books.
  - b. Different books are meant to be read different ways.
  - c. Good reading is the skill of being able to adjust HOW you read to fit the material you are reading.
5. The key tool for good Bible reading: a Good translation
6. Read the Bible with others
  - o Read the Bible outloud with others: family, cell group, class, etc.
  - o Read the Bible with the help of skilled Bible teachers through commentaries, Bible dictionaries, and study Bibles.
7. Read the Bible Prayerfully - Join prayer and study together deeply
8. Read the Bible for a lifetime - Imagine the benefit of a sustained habit of Bible reading over the course of your life.