



# READING YOUR BIBLE

## WHY DO YOU NEED TO READ YOUR BIBLE?

Many teenagers struggle with setting aside consistent time to deepen their relationship with God. **They want to know God better, but either don't invest the time, or don't know how, to learn about Him and His ways.** One of the most important ways to begin to encounter the Lord is through His Word. One of the Old Testament prophets, Isaiah, tells us, "The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the word of our God stands forever." As the world continues to rage against Jesus (Psalm 2), as believers, it is important that we find our absolute truth in the words given to us by God through the Bible.

**The Bible is the final answer of every question and the final solution to every problem.** As Paul tells us, "all Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

Not one word in the Bible will fail. Jesus promised that Heaven and earth would pass away, but His words would never pass away (Matthew 24:35). **As the return of Jesus draws near, a consistent daily time with Jesus is no longer an option for Christian growth - it is imperative if you want to know His voice and be confident in following Him.** Consider the absolute privilege it is that we have the opportunity to spend time with our Creator and Savior, hearing His voice and knowing His words. The truth of the Word of God will transform your life like nothing else can.

## YOUVERSION BIBLE APP

The YouVersion app is a great resource for finding Bible reading plans. You can locate thousands of plans here to cater to your season of life. Whether you want to dig in to a particular book of the Bible or want to explore a theme relevant to you, there are countless plans you can find on the app. You can also go through a plan together with a group of people and share insights with each other as you study.



*Simon Peter replied, "Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words that give eternal life.*

JOHN 6:68



## S.O.A.P. BIBLE READING METHOD

### SCRIPTURE

Choose a specific verse from your reading and write it out. Read it over a few times and meditate on it.

### OBSERVATION

What do you observe from the passage? Write down what stands out to you.

### APPLICATION

How does this passage apply to your life? What does God want to teach you from your reading?

### PRAYER

Say or write out a prayer to God based on this passage.

**IDENTIFY ONE TRUTH YOU LEARNED FROM READING - THEN TALK WITH THE LORD ABOUT THAT.**



## PRAY-READ THE WORD

If you read the Bible with a conversation in mind, you will see that the Bible is filled with topics to talk over with the Lord. Pray-reading simply means turning the Word of God into a dialogue with Him. You can talk to God about promises we are to believe by thanking Him for the truth of the promise and then asking Him to reveal that truth to us in a deeper way. You can talk to God about commands that we are to obey by declaring our resolve to obey the command, and then asking God for the power to obey it.

**A very simple way to use this pray-read approach to Bible reading is using the phrase, "Thank you, show me more." In other words, when you see a truth that the Lord reveals to you in Scripture, thank Him for that truth. Then ask the Holy Spirit to show you deeper revelation of that truth and how to apply it to your life.**