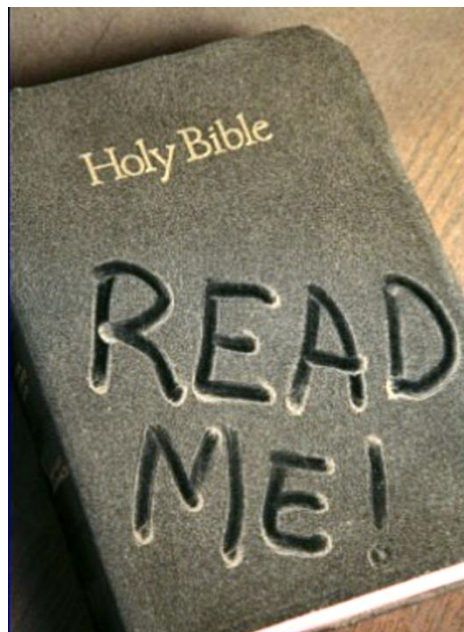


READ GOD'S WORD

QUESTION:

Stephanie was reading the book of Isaiah and said: I continue on with struggles. Somehow I seem to end up in 15 different books because of the references and awesome prophecies. I wish I knew of a more proper way to forge through this precious book. But I guess, if I am forging, God is leading. Still, I wish I was more organized about reading. Do you have any recommendations on how to go about tackling the Bible in a more efficient manner? I just wish I could know when to stop hopping around to other books and just continue reading. When I ponder it, does anyone ever teach on how to go about it? That's kinda sad actually. We are kind of left to go off on our own.

ANSWER:



This used to be my Bible. Don't let this be the way yours looks.

I do not recommend starting in the book of Isaiah. When I first really began to read God's Word I started in Genesis. I read a few chapters a day and then I would turn to the New Testament and read like a chapter in the book of Matthew. I continued like that until I had read through the entire Bible. That was my goal, to read the entire Bible.

How can you know God and what He has to say to you if you don't read His Word? The people who are just sitting around hoping to hear God's audible voice are setting themselves up to be deceived by V2K (voice to skull technology). Also, it is a very low level of faith or non-existent faith to only believe if you hear an audible voice.

We have access to God's Word, the things He wanted to say to us and wanted us to know. What message are you sending God when you don't read what He has spoken? You show Him you don't really love Him, don't care to know what He said. Maybe you think you are so special you don't need to read it to know Him. Maybe you think you are the one that He will just look past that and really do great things in and through your life in spite of your neglect of His Word. That is prideful thinking and being lazy spiritually.

Romans 2:11 - For there is no respect of persons with God (no favoritism / no partiality).

It is a blessing to have God's Word. There have been times when God's Word was withheld from the people on purpose by the Roman Catholic Church, called the dark ages. In Old Testament times everyone didn't have a copy of God's Word. In New Testament times as the letters to the churches were written they were also passed around to other churches to benefit from.

Col.4:16 - And when this epistle is read among you (And when this letter is read among you), cause that it be read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and that ye likewise read the *epistle* from Laodicea.

It was a gradual process to get to where we are today. Today here in America, Europe, and Australia we have easy access to God's Word. Not all nations have Bibles. In some places the Word of God is banned or illegal. Some nations are very poor and cannot afford Bibles. It has been an ongoing work to get God's Word translated into other languages so more and more people can read His Word for themselves. It is a true blessing to have His Word even though the translations have been tampered with. We can still draw near to Him and know the way to Salvation through Jesus Christ through the Bibles we have today.

The first Bible I ever read was a New Living Translation Open Bible. I was so hungry for God's Word I could not get enough. I was amazed at the things I learned and discovered in God's Word. To find our judicial system in the Bible floored me. That's the only way you are going to draw nearer to God and really get to know Him is by reading His Word. Yes, you need to develop a prayer life too but truly you will grow in reading His Word. Reading God's Word and prayer are two things that you need to take the time to incorporate into your day, every day. You need to discipline yourself just like an athlete because you have entered into a race, if you have been truly saved.

1 Cor.9:24-27 - Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain (So run, that you might get the prize). And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things (disciplined / controlled). Now they *do it* to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring *it* into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

YOUNG'S LITERAL TRANSLATION:

but I chastise my body, and bring it into servitude, lest by any means, having preached to others -- I myself may become disapproved.

2 Tim.4:7-8 – I have fought a good fight, I have finished *my* course (the race), I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the Righteous Judge, shall give me at that day (on that day): and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing (eagerly awaiting / longing for).

Gal.5:7 – Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?

NIV

You were running a good race. Who cut in on you to keep you from obeying the truth?

Heb.12:1-2 – Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about (surrounded) with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight (anything that hinders), and the sin which doth so easily beset *us* (the sin which so easily entangles us),

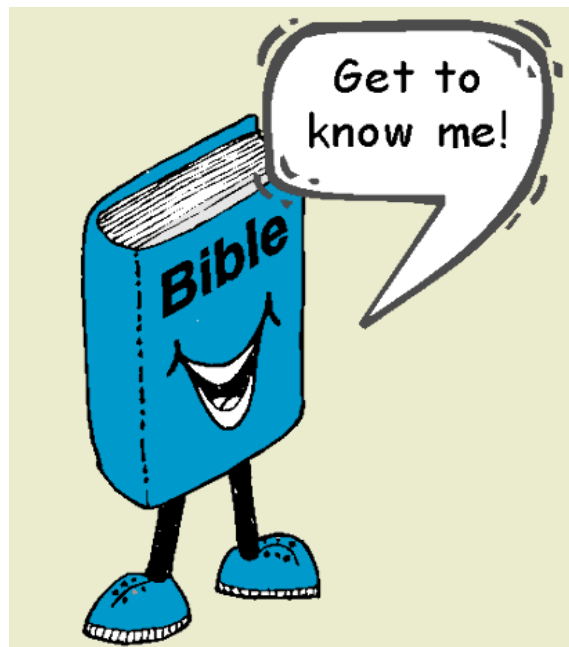
and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Isaiah 40:31 – But they that wait upon the LORD (hope in the LORD / trust in the LORD / YL: expecting the LORD) shall renew *their* strength (YL: pass to power); they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; *and* they shall walk, and not faint.

SO WE CLEARLY SEE WE ARE IN A RACE.

Hosea 4:6 - My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge (My people perish for lack of knowledge): because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to Me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God (ignored the law of thy God), I will also forget thy children.

This verse is a Mandela Effect. It used to say in the KJV, My people perish for lack of knowledge. Now there isn't any version that says perish but most now say destroyed.



How are you going to get understanding and knowledge of God if you don't read His Word?

Proverbs 9:10 - The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the Holy (One) *is* understanding.

Proverbs 1:7 – The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Do you think you are really fearing Him when you don't read His Word?

Always pray over your reading. This is something that I do every day. I pray and ask God to open my spiritual eyes, ears and understanding. To teach me the truth of His Word in spite of the torn up translations. To teach me by His Spirit. I also ask The Lord Jesus Christ to wash me with the water of His Word. Talk to the Lord and pray over your reading. Let Him know you want to grow in Christ. Ask the Holy Spirit to relate His Word to your life. Ask the Holy Spirit to open God's Word to you, He is your teacher.

John 14:26 – But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost (Holy Spirit), Whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

When you come across passages that you don't understand, lift it up in prayer. Let the Holy Spirit know you don't get it or whatever your question is about it. Then wait on Him and in His time He will answer you.

You can look up commentaries to see what the so called theologians have to offer up about the passage in question too. I use Biblehub or a Bible software or study Bibles with notes in them can be a help too. Remember these are opinions from people so you have to see if the Holy Spirit bears witness with what is being explained or taught. Not all of the theologians are in agreement and not all theologians are true Christians.

You can look up words in your Bible dictionary or a regular dictionary to help you.

I don't recommend doing a topic study at first, just read God's Word so you can get familiar with what is in His Word. The more you read His Word the more He will reveal and teach to you and grow you in Christ. God tells us that His Word is our spiritual food. We grow stronger and stronger spiritually when we feed regularly on His Word.

1 Peter 2:2 - As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the Word (pure milk of the Word), that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord *is* gracious (good).

1 Cor.3:2-3 - I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able *to bear it*, neither yet now are ye able. For ye are yet carnal (worldly): for whereas *there is* among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal (worldly), and walk as men?

Heb.5:12 - For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which *be* the first principles of the oracles of God (elementary or basic truths of God's Word); and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

Knowing God's Word and having it down inside of you will allow the Holy Spirit to quicken it on your heart and mind at the right time. When you witness to someone or talk with someone and you have God's Word in you then the Holy Spirit will place Scripture in your heart and on your mind to speak to that person. He will help you to sow seeds and to work in God's vineyard.

It is always a goal of mine to try and read through the Bible at least once a year. When I study certain things I read and study that subject for a message and I continue with my daily reading as well.

You can look and compare translations easily on Bible Hub too.

I highlight things that touch my heart or stand out to me. I underline and make notes, I cross reference Scripture. Make notes in your Bible as you go. You can write down things that are complicated or you don't understand and come back and note it when you have the answer to it.



PASTOR DALBEER SHARED:

sister regarding bible study which I like the most is to sit with family and then share what God is teaching you that gives more encouragement in family and all family gets blessings through it's words



It is good to read the Bible as a family when you can. Discuss it as you read. Explain it to your children as you read. This helps you all to grow and to be close as a family in the LORD.



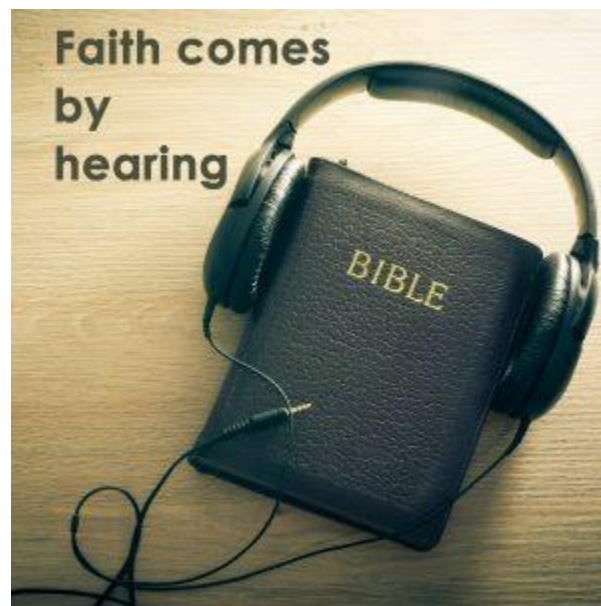
Did you know that if you don't teach your children God's Word and His ways, how to pray and to read His Word that you are sinning against God?



Your family will be spiritually stronger when you read God's Word and pray together. Children learn by example. Let them see you reading God's Word and hear you praying. Read and pray as a family and take turns letting everyone participate. This also helps your children to grow their spiritual muscles.



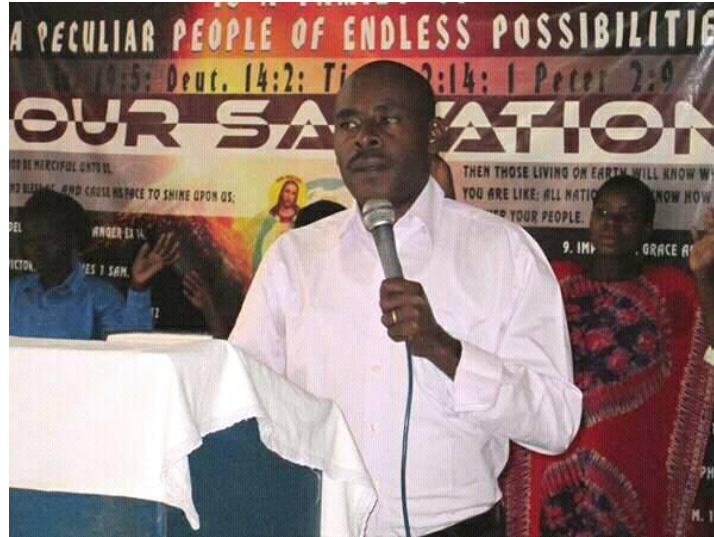
This is what you want, a child that loves God's Word and is familiar with it so that they can hear the Holy Spirit when He speaks to them.



It is good to hear God's Word also. So if you are able to get the Bible on an MP3 or your cell phone or whatever, listen to it while driving to work or at night while you sleep.

Romans 10:17 - So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

CLOSING



PASTOR ERUSTUS SHARED:

About on studying the Bible, what i advice is for a believer to try read and study the whole Bible both old & new testament. This calls for daily discipline. Studying the Bible must go in hand with prayer and always asking the Holy Spirit to illuminate Gods truth in ones spirit.

One has to balance in reading both the Old and New Testament.

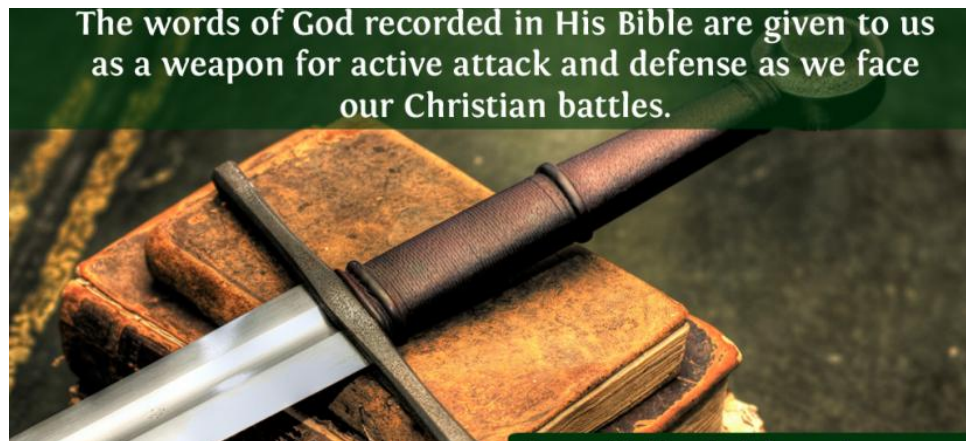
2 Tim.3:16-17 - All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God (God breathed), and *is* profitable for doctrine (teaching), for reproof (rebuking), for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect (complete), throughly furnished (equipped) unto all good works.

At least start by daily reading and studying 3 chapters of the Old Testament and 3 chapters in the New Testament start with maybe book of Genesis and Mathew as you move book by book. In addition to this read at least 3 Psalms daily and one chapter daily from the book of Proverbs. To avoid mix up one can have a weekly, or monthly Bible studying time-table .

But in all as I always say we are to allow the Holy Spirit to guide us since He is the best teacher.

Jesus fought satan by quoting Scripture. You can read that in the gospels. (Matthew 4:1-11) Every time satan tempted Him, Jesus said it is written and

quoted the Word at the devil. The outcome was that satan had to flee. Jesus is our Master, Savior, Lord and King. He is our example of how to fight satan.



If you don't know God's Word, which is the Sword of the Spirit, then how will you wield it at satan in order to get the victory? You must feed on God's Word, get it down on the inside of you.

Hebrews 4:12 - For the word of God *is* quick (living / alive), and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart (judges the thoughts and attitudes).

You have to know God's Word in order to know how to live for Him and to please Him.

Psalms 119:11 - Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

We should memorize God's Word and meditate on it – think on it.

2 Timothy 2:15 - Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth (correctly handling the Word of Truth).

When you don't or haven't bothered to read His Word you are not concerned with His approval. That should tell you something about your relationship right there.

The Bible offers encouragement, hope, strength, promises, blessings, comfort and more. You will find sin to confess and forsake, commands to obey, promises to claim, instructions to follow and prayers to pray. All the while you will get to know God's voice. Make it a daily habit to spend time in God's Word and grow in faith and knowledge of God. If you believe you are saved and have no desire to read God's Word then you either are not saved or you are not baptized into the Holy Spirit. When you are truly saved you will have a desire to read God's Word and know what He has to say to you and strengthen your relationship with Him.

PRAYER