

A Bible Reading Tool

Grow in Reading the Bible
using the R.E.A.P Method



A Reading Tool

Introduction:

Reading the scriptures can be difficult. Often we have the greatest intentions but just get stuck. Sometimes, not always, but sometimes this happens because we don't have a plan. Maybe there really isn't any method we use when reading the Bible.

This resource is designed to help us read with more intentionality by utilizing the REAP Method. We're excited for you to spend time learning a helpful way to engage with the scriptures.

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Content:

There are lots of ways to engage with the scriptures. It's always good to approach the scriptures with a plan. A helpful way is by using the REAP Method, which stands for read, examine, apply and pray. See this method in detail below.

READ

When reading the Bible we want to read with an open heart, asking the Holy Spirit to give words of encouragement, direction, and correction (2 Timothy 3:16). Underline the verses that seem important and that God is using to speak to you.

Not sure what to read? Consider following the reading plan from the Bible Project.

EXAMINE

Spend some time reflecting and writing about what you've read. Write down one or two of the key verses that stuck out to you. To help with examining consider purchasing a commentary. Some that we've found helpful are:

[ESV Study Bible](#)

[NIV Zondervan Study Bible](#)

APPLY

After examining the passage, apply the text to your own life.

PRAY

Pray through the passage and your application, asking God to change your heart and to change your life, based on the time you've spent in God's Word.

Questions:

1. On a weekly basis, how much do you read the scriptures?
2. What challenges do you have when it comes to increasing that consistency of your Bible reading?
3. Do you think the REAP method would be helpful to you as you engage the Bible? If so, how?

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Practice:

1. What is a favorite scripture of yours?
2. How has this impacted your life?

On your own try to do the following:

Find a passage to **READ**. Consider reading a shorter section. For example, James 1:19-27 is a good example of a smaller section to read.

Take some time to **EXAMINE** it. Maybe find the answers to the following questions:

1. What is going on in the passage?
2. Who is the author and who is the author writing to?
3. When was the author writing?
4. What are the circumstances that the author is addressing?
5. Does the writer mention anything that might indicate the authors purpose or intent?

APPLY the text to your life. Maybe find the answers to the following questions:

1. What is God's word for me from this passage?
2. How will I live differently and be different today because of what I just read?
3. What are the things in my life that need to change in light of this truth?

PRAY through the passage and your application, asking God to change your heart and to change your life, based on the time you've spent in God's Word.