

Four Steps for Devotional Reading

Clarify

When we read God's Word, God is speaking. The job of devotional Bible reading is to clarify what God is speaking about. All scripture is designed for one of the following four purposes, to show: what is right, what is not right, how to get right, how to stay right. As you seek clarification aim to be as specific as possible.

Personalize

Once you've identified what God is saying in His word, it is important and appropriate to personalize the lessons, teaching, principles, example, or topic addressed in the text. Aim to be as precise as possible connecting the teaching to something actually going on in your life right now.

Pray

Once you've figured out what God is communicating in His word and how it has application for you, prayer is your opportunity to complete the conversation by talking to Him about that which he has spoken in His word. If God talks to you about forgiveness, then you should talk with him about forgiveness: Your forgiveness toward others, God's forgiveness toward you, conflicts that may remain unsettled, grudges you are holding, etc...

Meditate

Your goal most days should be to have a simple biblical thought to take with you to think about throughout the day. And you should be looking for opportunities to put that thought into practice. If a given Bible text doesn't give you something to meditate on, choose a meditation from a day earlier in the week.



Day 1 Memory Verse: John 14:27

- Find and highlight this verse in your bible
- Neatly write the verse: _____

- What promise, command, instruction, principle, or encouragement is found in this verse? _____

Day 2 Proverbs 27:1-27

- Identify your favorite Proverb in this section. If desired, mark the verse in your Bible. Neatly hand write the verse: _____

- Why is this particular Proverb meaningful to you? _____

Day 3 Psalm 56

- What is the fix for being afraid? (v.3-4)

- Can you tell God about your enemies? How can you pray to Him about them? (v.5-6)

Day 4 Mark 9:1-25

- List the events or teaching that happened in this section.

- What can be learned about Jesus or human nature (positive or negative)? _____

- In what specific way is the Spirit of God speaking to you in this section? _____

Day 5 2 Samuel 23

- Describe the events that happened in this section:

- List any positive or negative character qualities you observed in this section: _____

- In what specific way is the Spirit of God speaking to you in this section? _____

