

Why should I read the Bible?



The Bible contains 66 books; 39 of which are in the Old Testament and 27 of which are in the New Testament

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The Bible is “God breathed and profitable for teaching, for conviction, for correction, for instruction in righteousness” (2 Tim. 3:16).

“...man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD” (Mat. 4:4). To grow as Christians, we need to nourish our spirit with God’s word. It can also be used to nourish others (Ref: 1 Pet. 2:2).

The Bible is God’s will and we must live according to God’s will. Therefore, we must read the Bible to be able to understand God’s will (Ref: Rom. 16:26).

Everyone who wants to know God must study His word in a serious way!

What is a good strategy to read the Bible?

Take 6 months at first to read through the Bible in a relaxed way. Try to build up the habit of coming to the word daily. Then consider the following:

The Bible can be read in 2 sessions during the day:

Session 1- Spiritual Nourishment

This session is meant to be used to touch the Lord and be nourished by His word. It involves focusing on a few verses, around 3-4 and praying and talking to the Lord. The goal here is to strengthen your spirit for the day. It should be a happy time spent appreciating God’s word. It can be combined with hymn singing if you believe that it will help you touch the Lord. This should preferably be done during the morning time (ex. right after getting up).

Session 2- Learning and Understanding

Try to memorize a verse per day as it is important to have the Word in your mind. In the afternoon spend some time really looking into and learning the Bible. Remember, the goal of reading the Bible is to touch God and understand His will.



Testimony for reading the Bible:

I would like to give a few pieces of quick advice about doing this amazing endeavour. Firstly, don’t just read once. You are kidding yourself and everyone else if you think that reading once will help you get to grips with the vast majority of this book. Only on my fourth reading am I really getting to grips with the overall structure and message of each book. Secondly, you would do well to read the NT about three times before beginning the Old. Thirdly, don’t set yourself limits. There are all sorts of problems tied up with this. For example, making yourself read this amazing book in precisely ‘one year’ tends to breed unwillingness after a while. You tie yourself to a deadline and then you have little time to delve deeper into those bits the Holy Spirit may want you to look at and meditate on. So take your time. The best advice I can give here is that if you are struggling, keep asking God to help you love it all and enjoy it. He’ll help you out. Fourthly, maybe using an audio bible would be very helpful! I find it really fun! Fifthly, get a simple translation, for goodness’ sake! Don’t use a translation which is difficult to listen to. The NIV is great and there is a free audio Bible of it available on Biblegateway.com. Sixthly, I would suggest using a pen as you go along. Your brain will remember stuff better if you mark it. Seventh, TAKE YOUR TIME. It’s not a race and after all: why are you doing this? What is your motive? To know God more or to just be able to say ‘I’ve read the Bible through’? Eighth, try out reading at different times of the day until you find your best time. Mine is about 7.10 am every morning, until about 8.00. I almost always have a shower first and then make a cup of tea to drink whilst reading. Love it! Love it!

Source: <http://www.west.org.uk/Blog/EntryId/9/A-testimony-on-reading-the-Bible>

When you read the Bible it’s important to keep these things in mind: (1) Discover the facts. Just the facts Jack! (2) Memorize and recite words. (3) Analyze, categorize, compare and (4) Receive God’s enlightening. Prayer is a great way to do this.