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# bible

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Daily Bible reading is the foundational habit for all spiritual growth. Spiritual self-feeding in God's Word is THE essential discipline to mature us toward full devotion to Christ.

*"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth." (2 Timothy 2:15, p. 842)*

*"And how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."*

(2 Timothy 3:15-17, p. 843)

*"For Ezra devoted himself to the study and observance of the Law of the Lord, and to teaching its decrees and laws in Israel."*

(Ezra 7:10, p. 338)

*"The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes. The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever. The ordinances of the Lord are sure and altogether righteous. They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb. By them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward."*

(Psalm 19:7-11, p. 390)

## 10 Steps to a meaningful daily time with God...

### 1. Read your Bible every day (discipline)

*"I have not departed from the commands of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth more than my daily bread."  
(Job 23:12)*

*"'For who is he who will devote himself to be close to Me?' declares the Lord."  
(Jeremiah 30:21)*

### 2. Set a regular time to read your Bible (faithfulness)

### 3. Have a regular place to read your Bible (concentration)

### 4. Read your Bible with a pen in hand (retention)

### 5. Apply the Bible to your life (obedience)

### 6. Read your Bible for length and depth (understanding)

### 7. Meditate and memorize your Bible (growth)

*"Hear, O Israel: the Lord your God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates."  
(Deuteronomy 6:4-9)*

### 8. Use helps when you read your Bible (accuracy)

### 9. Keep a daily spiritual journal of your devotional time (faith)

Five key areas to be included...

↔ God's message to you today

↔ Your application

↔ A command to keep

↔ A promise from God

↔ A timeless principle

### 10. Always begin and end your daily time with God in prayer (gratitude)