

iLOT Bible Reading

(Identify, Learn, Obey, and Talk the commands)

In Matthew 28:19-20 Jesus commands us *how* to make disciples. “... *make disciples ... Teach these new disciples to obey ALL the commands I have given you.*” So all Christians are commanded to obey ALL of the commands. Reading with a goal to obey ALL of God's' commands and instructions will drastically change you. Remember, Jesus said you'll only be set free if you obey his instructions “*You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.*” John 8:31-32. Reading the New Testament yearly using iLOT will significantly help you to know and obey ALL of God's commands.

i Identify the commands

1. **Highlight all of the commands in a unique way so they will stand out for quick review later.** Find the commands/instructions by asking the question “what does God expect his followers to do or not to do?” Don't worry about your highlights being perfect, it's an acquired skill that improves over time. When trying to determine if an example should be considered a command/instruction ask this question “Is this example clearly taught as a command/instruction someplace else in the Bible?”

L Learn the commands

1. Look at the context of the command. Think about any promise or consequence or reasons for that the command may have. Study it until you can explain the command/instruction to others.
2. Work hard to learn the commands because the harder you try the more understanding God will give you (“*Pay close attention to what you hear. The closer you listen, the more understanding you will be given*” Mark 4.24). Don't ignore “hard to understand” commands, use study Bibles and commentaries to learn what those commands are. I recommend getting (in this order) the “NLT Life Application Study Bible”, “ESV Study Bible” and “The MacArthur Bible Commentary”. All three are only about \$84 from Amazon.

O Obey the Commands

1. **Ask “Am I doing this passage?”** That is your main goal! God says we're only fooling ourselves if we read but don't do it. “*But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves.*” James 1:22. For each command ask “Am I doing this?”
2. During the day try to review today's reading by asking again “Am I doing this?”

T Talk about the commands

1. **Talk about what you've read at least once a day.** Don't hide from others what will set them free. Talk, discuss, teach, tell and share what you've read. Be sure to obey “*And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. 7 Repeat them again and again to your children [and to everyone else –Rich adds]. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up.*” Deut 6:6-7 The more you talk the more you'll remember and do and the more you'll encourage others.

For more on this go to www.MakeDiscipleMakers.com. If you fall behind in your reading JUST read today's passage. Quality is always better than quantity.