

How to Read the Bible

in a way that will bring you closer to God

www.growingstrong.info

Who does Jesus say He will love and reveal Himself to? *“Those who accept my commandments and obey them are the ones who love me. And because they love me, my Father will love them. And I will love them and reveal myself to each of them.”* (John 14:21 NLT). So it's by obeying that we get closer to God. Therefore:

Learn God says if you want his blessing you need to do the following four underlines in James 1:25 (NIV) *“But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.”* So while slowly reading:

1. **Ask God “Am I doing this?”** as you read each paragraph (Luke 6:46). It may be: **sins** to avoid, **promises** to rely on, **examples** to follow or not follow, **commands** to obey, or **knowledge** to live by. Some underline these. Talk with God about what you are reading. Ask Him for help.
2. **Circle the promises** (both positive and negative ones) and underline it's condition. (most promises have a condition).
3. **Highlight what you want to remember** so you can quickly review it. This is key because if you forget it you can't do it! Some highlight key phrases instead of whole paragraphs.

Obey Jesus said *“When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love”* (John 15:10 NLT) so each day:

4. **Ask God which** highlight to focus on obeying today. Put a Star next to it. Write down (in Bible or journal) how the verse impressed you and how you will do it. Some write it as a prayer.
5. **Think throughout the day** on what you wrote and read (Psalm 1.2). A great way to do this is to talk about it with your friends.

--- Key Tips ---

- A) Feel free to modify this guide. But be sure you are **learning** God's teachings or you can't do them! And **do** them or you're only fooling yourself! (James 1:22)
- B) Review your recent highlights often so you won't forget and not obey.
- C) If you fall behind, only read today's passage (you'll read them again next year).
- D) Start with Gospel of John (gives best overview), then follow the reading plan.
- E) Jesus commands us to *“obey everything I have commanded you”* (Matthew 28:20 NIV). Use the www.growingstrong.info “1 Page a Day New Testament Reading Plan” so you'll read and do ALL of God's instructions at least once a year. Since it's only one page a day you'll have time to learn and obey it.
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