



Bible reading Tips

Get more out of your devotional time!

Here are my top 5 tips for getting into the Word:

- I read a Psalm, a Proverb, and a chapter of the New Testament every day. Last year I did a chapter of the OT everyday, but I finished it and started on the NT. Here's why: the Psalms are good for my soul and help me understand the magnificence of God, Proverbs give wisdom for daily living, and the New Testament shows the Glory of God manifested in Christ and helps me understand how I am to live in response to his love. Some of my favorite NT books are James, 1 & 2 Timothy, 1 & 2 Peter, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, and and 1 John if you need a place to start.
- Pray before you read. This sounds simple, but it's effective. Praying for the Holy Spirit to help you understand and be transformed by what you read is KEY!
- Check your translation. There are many translations of the bible and some of them are easier to read than others. A LOT EASIER. If you have get stuck, I recommend a version like the New Living Translation to get you going (NLT).
- Study it. Take notes, underline passages that speak to you, read commentaries and look up things you don't understand. Treat it like a textbook and keep a notebook handy too. Look for themes running through the specific book, promises from God, and attributes of God. These three things help you begin to understand the AMAZING God we serve, and when you understand how awesome he is, your faith grows.
- Do it first. I made a rule to help me keep the Word a priority: devos before anything else. No social media, no workout, and no tv or radio before I spend time with God. I make it a priority so that if I run short on time in the day, it's not my bible time that suffers.

That's a start! JUST DO IT. God will meet you there and your heart will be changed!