

BEING DISCIPLED

How to Read the Bible for Yourself.

*"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching,
for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness."*

2 TIMOTHY 3:16 · ESV

GOOD NEWS

It's simpler than you think.

A lot of people believe the Bible is a book only experts can understand. It isn't. It was written for ordinary people — farmers, fishermen, families — and with a little guidance, you can read it for yourself and hear God speak.

You don't need a seminary degree or a stack of commentaries. You need a willing heart, a few minutes, and a simple way to work through what you're reading. That's what this guide gives you.

One thing to settle first: read to meet a Person, not just to gather information. The goal isn't to finish a chapter — it's to know God better and to let His Word shape how you live.

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

PSALM 119:105 · ESV

THE FRAMEWORK

Three questions for any passage.

Whenever you open the Bible, walk through these three questions in order. They work for any passage, anywhere in Scripture.

1

Observe.

What does it actually say? Read slowly. Notice who's speaking, what's happening, and any words that repeat or stand out. Don't jump to meaning yet — just look.

Try this: Read the passage twice before moving on.

2

Interpret.

What did it mean to the people who first heard it? Consider the story around it. A verse never means something it could never have meant to its original readers.

Try this: Ask: what was God saying to them?

3

Apply.

What does it mean for me now? Once you understand it, ask how it should change your thinking, your heart, or your actions today.

Try this: Name one specific way to live it out.

HABITS THAT HELP

How to actually keep going.

Knowing how to read is one thing; building the habit is another. A few things that make it stick:

- **Start with a Gospel.** Begin in John or Mark to meet Jesus before anything else.
- **Read a little, daily.** A few verses you think about beats chapters you skim.
- **Same time, same place.** Attach it to something you already do — coffee, lunch, bedtime.
- **Pray first.** Ask God to speak before you read a word.
- **Write it down.** Jot the verse that stood out and one thing you'll do about it.
- **Don't quit when you miss a day.** Just pick up where you left off. Grace, not guilt.

TAKE A MINUTE

When and where will you read this week — and which book will you start with?

KEEP GOING

Pick a book. Start today.

The best time to start reading the Bible for yourself is now. Need a plan to follow? Grab one of our reading plans, or just open the Gospel of John and begin.

GET A PLAN

[See our reading plans](#)

QUESTIONS

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GATHER

[Sundays · 10:00 AM](#)
