

FEEDING ON GOD'S WORD

Practical Tools

- Serve in gKids. Help teach children.
- Daily Audio Bible.
- YouVersion, Bible Project, Bible Hub.
- Journal.
- Translations (NLT, ESV, NIV, RSV, CSB).
- A.I.M. context of history and author.
- Ask questions when reading the Word: What does this tell me about God? What is God asking me to be/do?
- Commit to God in a consistent place. Pray for hunger.
- Commentaries (e.g., David Guzik, Warren Wiersbe, Matthew Henry).
- Desiring God "Look at the Book"
- *Action Bible* and *Jesus Storybook Bible* for Children.
- ONE YEAR BIBLE Reading plan.
- Physical Bible (primary), Digital Bible (secondary)
- Know your learning style.
- Circle of context tool.
- The Bible is the lens to interpret life.
- Theology to form/lead experiences/soul.
- Meditate on the Word. (*Ps. 1:2, Joshua 1:8-9*).

Heart Vision for Bible Reading (the Why)

- Need for community.
- Relationship is key.
- Community block.
- When to engage and how (*Deut. 6:7-10*).
- Special Revelation confirms General Revelation. Deeper revelation clarifies surface revelation. New revelation joins old Truths.
- Knowledge without experience lacks understanding.
- Consistently come back to the "Why" Food (*Matt. 4:4*), Life and Spirit (*John 6:63*), Weapon for War (*2 Cor. 10:3-5*), Light (*Ps. 119:105*), Nourishment (*Matthew 6:11*)
- Listen to, surround yourself with hungry, passionate people of the Word.
- Eliminate other sources that fill your soul.
- Ask for filling of the Holy Spirit (*2 Cor. 3:14*).
- Prayerfully read the Word.
- Competition streaks with YouVersion (e.g., drills, games, memorization)
- Vision of reading God's Word: Christlikeness, whole and Holy.
- Stay where you are being fed; find green pastures.
- Sharing the activity of God through the Word; talk about it. (*Rev. 12:11*)

Questions to ask as you read the Bible:

- What does this tell me about the nature of God?
- What does this say about the people involved?
- How can I read this prayerfully, humbly, and accurately?
- Look for words, repetition, patterns, and clarifications.
- Knowing the Author's intent —God is Holy.
- Ask questions of the text, ask the Holy Spirit (1 John 2:27) and use your imagination.
- What is happening in the story?
- What do you imagine the scene to be like? Quiet, noisy, busy, slow, dirty, clear? The weather? What's the temperature?

Note: Using your imagination does not give the text a new meaning, it simply helps you understand and experience the story as reality.

For application, consider these questions:

- How does this correlate to what is unfolding in your life? How do the two stories align? How are they different?
- What does the story tell you about God? Does this correlate to other characteristics about God across Scripture?
- How do you want me to respond to what You're saying?
- What underlying assumptions do you have about God that might be wrong? Why?
- Where do you see God in your story? In the background, forefront, central, the main voice, director, author?

Always ask this question:

What is God asking me to be or do?

Notes
