

Daily Time with God

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Importance of daily time with God

Jesus answered by quoting Deuteronomy: "It takes more than bread to stay alive. It takes a steady stream of words from God's mouth."

Matthew 4.4, MSG

Listen to my counsel and be wise. Don't ignore it. Happy are those who listen to me, watching for me daily at my gates, waiting for me outside my home! For whoever finds me finds life and wins approval from the LORD.

Proverbs 8.33 – 35, NLT

... the number one priority for you this year, the one factor that will determine more than anything else your ability to live a life of victory, is meeting regularly with Almighty God.

Chuck Swindoll / Moses

How to Read the Bible

When you read, don't turn it into a Bible study. Read for the grand sweep of what God has done in history. **Read with pen in hand and mark what jumps out at you.** Pray that God will reveal his truth to when you read. Then read the passage, marking what comes alive for you (not necessarily the key ideas or the most important ideas—just those that are applicable for you today).

Which Bible to Read

We suggest you read from a contemporary translation or paraphrase. The New Living Translation (NLT) and The Message are good, as well as the New International Version (NIV). The NIrV (a version of NIV for those who don't read well) is available from the International Bible Society. We further suggest that you NOT read from a study Bible where the notes sometimes overcome the text!

A Simple System

Read and mark Psalm 19.7: The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

(example)

Reflect Pick one thought to meditate on for the day. Then Respond to God in prayer about it.

Respond → *For I, the LORD, have promised this, and I will do it.*
(God wants response) ***This is what the Sovereign LORD says: "I am ready to hear Israel's prayers for these blessings, and I am ready to grant them their requests."***

Record *(Ezekiel 36.36 – 37, NLT)*

Practice

Pray that God will reveal his truth to you in the following passage. Then read the passage, marking what comes alive for you (not necessarily the key ideas or the most important ideas—just those that are applicable for you today). Pick out one idea that you marked, and discuss it with God in prayer. Then record your thoughts in the space that follows.

⁷ *The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;*

⁸ *the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;*

⁹ *the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.*

¹⁰ *More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.*

Psalm 19.7 – 10, ESV

Best thing I marked today: Reference: _____

Thought (quote or summarize the best thing): _____

How it impressed me:

My response to God:
