

Reading the Bible

Part 2

Video Link For This Lesson: <http://youtu.be/RXdtv-JfITY>

Covered in this Lesson

- **Practical Steps for Daily Reading**
- **Using the Helps In Your Bible**
- **Recommended On-Line Tools for Bible Study**

Practical Steps for Daily Reading

A great goal is to read the Bible each and every day. Here are a few practical steps that will help you create a consistent and engaging pattern of daily Bible reading.

Create an Undisturbed Pattern - Find a place and time to read where you can give your full attention with the least amount of distractions or interruptions.

Read Slow - Take your time to focus on a particular chapter or portion of scripture.

Pay attention to words that are repeated and phrases that are there to bring emphasis. When something makes a strong impression upon you, take time to pray and talk to the Lord about that Scripture.

Read Fast - Read through several chapters or a whole book in one sitting. This allows you to see major themes that are emphasized throughout the whole book.

Pray - The Holy Spirit inspired the authors to write Scripture, and the Holy Spirit can help you receive life-giving words from Scripture.

Using the Helps In Your Bible

Book Introductions - Most Bibles have introductions at the beginning of each of the Books in the Bible. These introductions are very helpful because they give you a great head start before you read the book. It will describe what type of book it is such as a book of prophecy, a book of songs, or a historical account. It will also identify the author of that particular book and provide information about that author.

Cross References - These references list other Scriptures that provide more information on the same topic or provide the location of the Old Testament quote that the writer is referencing.

Notes & Commentary - Notes provide helpful information about practical matters such as how long a 'cubit' is in 'feet'. The commentary provides notes and insights from Bible scholars about the scripture. It's a lesson or sermon about the Scripture that you are reading.

Book Introductions, Cross References, Notes & Commentary are great 'helps'. However, they are not part of the original Scripture. It's important to read these differently than the Scripture themselves. These helps are there to help you understand Scripture, but they do not have the same authority and sacredness as Scripture.

Recommended On-Line Tools for Bible Study

Bible.com - They provide a Bible App called the **YouVersion** of the Bible for your phone or tablet. It has Bible Study tools and a reading plans that will help you systematically read through you whole Bible in a year.

BlueLetterBible.com - This site provides multiple versions of the Bible as well as commentaries and other helpful Bible Study tools.

BibleStudyTools.com - The name describes the website very well. Just plug in a Scripture that you want to study and you are off and running with plenty of on-line study tools to help you.

Logos.com - You can purchase Bible Study software here. It's one of the most powerful and most utilized Bible Study software available.

Discussion Questions:

- Are you a fast reader or a slow reader? Why is it helpful to read the Bible at different paces?
- Are you able to understand the English translation of the Bible that you currently read? If not, take a look at Reading the Bible Part 1 and learn how to pick out a better version of the Bible.
- Does your Bible have 'helps'? Examples: Book Introductions, Concordance, Notes, or Commentary.

Additional Resources:

Victory's Website: www.vcfgoochland.org/discipleship

Victory's Podcast: <http://goo.gl/XVZVNY>

Contact Us @ friends@vcfgoochland.org or Call Us: 804-556-5700

Recommended Books:

[*How to Read the Bible for All It's Worth* by Gordon D Fee](#)

[*How to Read the Bible Book by Book* by Gordon D Fee](#)