

10 Ways to Read the Bible

1- Prayerfully

- Pray for eyes to see and ears to hear
- Pray for focus and alertness to see and savor all God has for you
- Speak scripture out loud as your own prayer

2- Repeatedly

- Read it silently
- Read it out loud
- Read in different translations
- Listen to recordings
- Set a schedule for reading
- Memorize verses (and chapters) to access again and again

3- Analytically

- **Who** does it involve... is it for...is it from?
- **What** is the event... is happening... is the argument... the point... What difference does it make?
- **Where** was it written... is it taking place... are the readers when they get it?
- **When** did it take place... when was it written?
- **Why** is it included... is it placed here... does it follow and/or precede?

4- Purposefully

Be attentive to the Grammar

- **Verbs**- Action words
- **Subject**- thing/person acting or acted upon
- **Modifiers**- descriptive words (adjectives or adverbs)
- **Prepositions**- where the action is taking place (in, upon, through)
- **Connectives**- (and, but, therefore)

Be attentive to the Structure-

- **Biographical**- builds on key person(s)
- **Geographical**- builds around key place(s)
- **Historical**- builds around key event(s)
- **Chronological**- builds on a sequence of happenings
- **Ideological**- builds around ideas and/or concepts

5- Thoughtfully

- What investigative questions can you ask to understand it more?
- What does the study notes or a bible commentary say about it?

6- Patiently

- Zoom in and Zoom out
- Be patient with the text and be patient with yourself

7- Telescopically

- Evaluate the parts in relation to the context of the whole chapter... book... bible.

8- Imaginatively

- Read it in paraphrases
- Rewrite the text in your own paraphrase
- Draw what you are reading
- Vary your setting for your reading time

9- Submissively

- Submit your will and perspective to God's will and perspective

10- Worshipfully

- What does it reveal about God and the Gospel that causes you to enjoy and worship Him?

