

## Daily bible reading (an essential Christian discipline)

In order to make progress, we need a way for God to speak into our daily situations. Hence the need to be reading the Bible regularly – and in a systematic way, not pick and mix!

Daily is best. Look for a regular time, regular place, where distractions are minimal or where you can manage them via earphones or similar. Can be in the home/garden, on way to work and maybe a quiet corner at work before others come in.

Writing down key points (in a Journal, paper or electronic, the bible app allows you to create images of verses that impact you and share them with comments) is a good way to remember what God has said or promised; useful for future reference. Sharing those notes with others can help encourage and build up other believers, and serve as a reminder of all God is doing.

Modelling the discipline of regular Bible Reading to our friends or our children can be one of the greatest gifts you give them for their future spiritual development. For specific recommendations for Children talk to Linda Galpin.

Jesus defended himself against Satan's temptations by using the bible; if we are to do the same, we need to know our bible.

Having a bible at home is important. A study bible gives you notes and guidance and context alongside the bible itself and is really helpful (**recommended** NIV study bible £18.49 or NIV Life Application Study bible on Amazon). Staff at Greyfriars bookshop (RG1 1EH) would help if you want to look before you buy.

Bible Reading notes help you to understand the passage and its context. Seek notes at the right level, which will be sufficiently challenging, stimulating, relevant.

To deepen our relationship with God, it's important to reflect on what needs to change. If we do nothing, then nothing changes!

**Challenge: Pick one of the methods described below and try it for three weeks - make a habit of it!**

Bible Reading aids. (All available from Amazon or a Christian bookshop or search on line 'bible reading notes')

A. Conventional paper-based notes, such as:

Daily Bread, Encounter with God, recommended, Word for Today - **UCB (United Christian Broadcasters)** EDWJ (Every day with Jesus), Cover to Cover. Various notes for Young People e.g. TOPZ

B. Online notes: Wordlive (SU) – **Recommended** on website or emailed daily, with a passage, basic notes & deeper study. Also additional explanatory notes and passage as an audio.

[https://www.wordlive.org/173539.id#.V1\\_gUfkrLIU](https://www.wordlive.org/173539.id#.V1_gUfkrLIU)

Bible Gateway: has various plans, devotionals, search facilities, for different Bible versions.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/>

Bible in One Year with Nicky Gumbel commentary notes: <https://www.bibleinoneyear.org/>

C. Apps for mobile devices. There is a range: the bible app is recommended

The Bible App: <https://www.bible.com/app> **Recommended**

Any questions on this to: Jeremy Galpin, Andrew Galpin Bob Hansford or Nick Jackson