

Mark It Up!

How to Get More from Your Bible Reading

Come Hungry And Prayerful

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Brad Bigney / February 23, 2025

I. Come Hungry And Prayerful

A. Start With Prayer

Psalm 119:18 “Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in Your law.”

- Help me see what’s there
- Help me stay focused on what’s there
- Help me to apply it to my life

B. Come Hungry

Jeremiah 15:16 “Your words were found, and I ate them, and Your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by Your name, O LORD, God of hosts.”

NLT “When I discovered Your words, I devoured them...”

Matthew 4:4 Jesus speaking while in flesh on this earth “... Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

II. Look For Repetition

Slow down and pay attention whenever the Bible repeats a word or phrase, because God is trying to drive home to us something that we struggle to get a hold of.

A. Salvation Is The Gift Of Christ’s Righteousness Given To You By Faith

Romans 4 (pp. 813-814, *MacArthur Daily Bible*)

B. We Are Saved By Faith And Not By Keeping The Law

Galatians 3 (pp. 1003-1004, *MacArthur Daily Bible*)

C. God Didn’t Save You Because Of Anything About You

Ephesians 1:5-12 (p. 1021, *MacArthur Daily Bible*)

You can read the entire book of Ephesians in just **30 minutes**. You might be surprised the amount of time it takes to read or listen to many of the books of the Bible.

3 Minutes: Philemon, 2 John, 3 John

5 Minutes: Obadiah, Jude

10 Minutes: Jonah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, 2 Thessalonians, Titus, 2 Peter

15 Minutes: Ruth, Joel, Malachi, Philippians, Colossians, 1 Thessalonians, 2 Timothy

30 Minutes: Esther, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, Lamentations, Hosea, Amos, Micah, Galatians, Ephesians, 1 Timothy, James, 1 Peter, 1 John

D. Idols Blind You And Cause You To Stumble Into All Kinds Of Other Sin

Ezekiel 14:1-7 (p. 1188, *MacArthur Daily Bible*)

Conclusion –

There's more than one way to get something out of your Bible reading, but you've got to read it or listen to it.

- Consider reading the Gospels to see Jesus
- Consider picking a book of the Bible and reading it every day for 30 days
- Consider picking a great chapter of the Bible and reading it every day for a week or a month
- Then start looking for repetition of a word or phrase

Mark it up! Then soak in it, asking God to show you why that word or phrase is being repeated and see what happens in your life.