

How to spend 20 minutes with God daily:

1. Read your Bible
 - One chapter a day
 - Print a verse or two
 - Write a note – what does this mean to me?
 - Consider an application—how can I do this today?
2. Pray (more about this in How to Pray next)

Quiet Time Recipe

Warm your heart by singing a favorite hymn or chorus. Can't sing. Play a Christian chorus on an mp3 player or CD.

Ingredients:

Bible

Devotional magazine or book

Notebook

Pen

Index card

1. First, ask God to speak to your heart during this time. Tell Him you will obey Him today.
2. Read your Bible (either a chapter, or the passage recommended in your devotional magazine or book)
3. Write down key words, phrases or verses in a notebook or journal.
4. Write down what you think God is saying to you about what you've read today.
5. Pray. (you can write your prayers or pray out loud)
6. List special prayer concerns in your notebook. (Come back later and place a date beside the concerns when God answers your prayers.)
7. Use the index card to record verses you'd like to memorize. Try to memorize one Bible verse each week.
8. Thank God for meeting you today. Keep listening as He talks to you throughout your day.

How to meditate on God's Word:

"[Those] who are always meditating on His laws...are like trees along a river bank bearing fruit...they never wither and whatever they do prospers." Psalm 1:2-3 (LB)

When you read the Bible daily and deliberately—certain verses will seem to speak specifically to you.

- Print them.
- Ponder them. Ask yourself this question: "What is God saying to me through His Word?" And don't be afraid to write an answer.
- Pray them.
- Practice the truth revealed through them. Apply whatever God is saying to your life.

Allow the Bible to be personal and practical and you will be ushered into the deep places where the secrets lie—if you enter there in an attitude of reverence, fear and humility with a willingness to change.

I believe the Bible.
It is the Word of God.
Every word of God is true.
Where what the Bible says differs from
my belief, my behavior, my actions or my attitudes I will change.
By the power of God's Holy Spirit. Amen.

How to Read God's Word:

Deliberately—

- A chapter a day
- A chapter in Proverbs each month
- Read a Psalm a day
- Read through the Bible in a Year (different plans)
- Use a highlighter or pen—underline, highlight, write in the margins

Resources for Bible Study:

- **Study Bible:** Life Application Bible (Tyndale)
- **Bible Handbook:** Haley's Bible Handbook (Zondervan)
- **Bible Dictionaries:** The Moody Atlas of Bible Lands
- **Concordance:** Strong's Exhaustive Concordance
- **Other Important Study Tools:**
- Different translations of the Bible
- Bible on computer (programs like Bible Navigator)
- www.crosswalk.com

How to Memorize God's Word:

"Guard my words as your most precious possession. Write them down, and also keep them deep within your heart." Proverbs 7:2-3 (LB)

Benefits:

1. Resist temptation—Psalm 119:11
2. Make wise decisions—Psalm 119:105
3. Strength when under stress—Psalm 119:49
4. Comfort—Jeremiah 15:16
5. Witness to unbelievers—I Peter 3:15

When to memorize a verse:

- During your quiet time
- While working out or walking
- While waiting (spare moments)
- At bedtime
- In the shower

How to memorize a verse:

1. Pick a verse that speaks to you.
2. Say the reference before and after the verse.
3. Read the verse aloud many times—record yourself reading it!
4. Break the verse into phrases.
5. Emphasize key words when quoting the verse.
6. Write down the verse and erase a word one at a time.
7. Write out the verse on a flash card.
8. Carry some cards with you at all times for review.
9. Display your verses in prominent places.
10. Always memorize the verse word perfect.
11. Put the verse to music.
12. Get a partner so you can check each other.

Start with one verse a week.