

Why & How Should I Read The Bible?

Multifaceted Book

The Bible describes itself in a variety of different ways - different aspects/perspectives/functions.

Which picture of the Bible resonates with you most?

-  **Food** - **Matthew 4:4** "Jesus said, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" - nourishment
-  **Light** - **Psalm 119:105** "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path." - gives direction
-  **Fire** - **Jeremiah 23:29** ""Is not my word like fire," declares the Lord, "and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?"" - purifies & refines
-  **Sword** - **Ephesians 6:17** "Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." - pierces and defends
-  **Water** - **Isaiah 55:10-11** - cleanses and gives life

Discovery Bible Study

Pick one of the following passages:

- Jesus Calms the Storm – Mark 4:35-41
- Jesus Raises a Man from the Dead – John 11:1-44
- Jesus and the Samaritan Woman – John 4:1-26, 39-42

Read the passage through twice - two different versions if possible

Ask someone to retell the story - ask others to offer additional details

Use the Discovery Questions to explore the passage together

Discovery Questions:

- What struck you as particularly significant?
- Did anything surprise you?
- What does the passage reveal about God?
- What does the passage reveal about others?

Bible Reflection

Select a passage from the list below:

- 2 Timothy 3:1-17
- Psalm 119:105-112
- Psalm 19:7-11
- Hebrews 4:12-16
- James 1:19-27
- Colossians 3:1-17
- Psalm 1
- Isaiah 55:6-13
- Psalm 119:129-136

- Stop - pray "Lord, what do you want to show me today?"
 - read slowly - pause and listen
- Then take a moment to consider and answer the Reflective Questions

Reflective Questions:

- What did God say to you?
- What are you going to do about it?
- Who do you need to help you?