

The BREAD acronym is a tool designed to help you slow down and prayerfully read the Bible. Use these passages to guide your time with God and prepare your heart to engage in the practice of prayer.

## **BE STILL**

Find a place where you can remove distractions and practice being still and silent. Then ask God to be with you and speak to you. Pray that the Holy Spirit will guide your time and draw you near to Jesus.

### READ

Read through the passage for the day. Then read through it again slowly. Write down what you observe and any questions you might have. What stands out? What is repeated? What is compared or contrasted? What words are unfamiliar?

### **EXAMINE**

Examine the text and then let the text examine you. What is the context of this passage and how does it relate to the story of Scripture? Use a study Bible or commentary to dig deeper into what this author intended to communicate. Seek to discover what God is revealing and how it speaks to your heart and mind. Write your reflections.

### **APPLY**

Write down one thing you believe God is asking you to do in response. Is there a sin to avoid, a promise to trust, an example to follow, a command to obey, or knowledge about God and his plan that changes, challenges, or comforts you? How will you apply this passage to your life today?

### **DEVOTE TO PRAYER**

Finally, close by writing a simple prayer of devotion to God, praising him for who he is and thanking him for what he has done for you. Ask that, through the power of the Holy Spirit, his truth would bear fruit in your life as you trust in and follow Jesus.

# BREAD The Hope of Prayer

## DAY 1:

Rejoice, always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18

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# BREAD The Hope of Prayer

## DAY 2:

• Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong. 2 Corinthians 12:8-10

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## BREAD The Hope of Prayer

## DAY 3:

• For this reason, I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth in named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Ephesians 3:4-19

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