

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 Practice of Prayer

DAY 1:

- And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. Mark 1:35
- But now even more the report about him went abroad, and great crowds gathered to hear him and to be healed of their infirmities. But he would withdraw to desolate places and pray. Luke 5:16-16

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BREAD The Practice of Prayer

DAY 2:

• Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16

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BREAD The Practice of Prayer

DAY 3:

Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed by your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Matthew 6:9-13

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