

Making Time to Read the Bible

Why do I want to read the Bible?

- I will know how to obey God.
- I will be a better wife and mother.
- I'm struggling and I know I need to be spending time in the Word.
- I will know how to instruct and correct my children.
- I will please God.
- I will become wiser and know how to respond to different situations in life.
- I will grow closer to God.
- I will be encouraged.
- I will be equipped for all that God has called me to do.
- My faith will be stronger as I learn more about God and His faithfulness.
- I will be better armed against temptation.
- My heart will be guarded from sin.

What is at stake if I don't accomplish this goal?

- I will not grow in my relationship with God.
- I will not be prepared to lead and train my children.
- I will be more likely to sin in attitude and action.
- I will be more likely to drift away from God.
- I will make foolish decisions.
- I will not be prepared to face difficulties in life.
- I will be making others things more important than God.
- I will set a poor example for my children.

Who will benefit if I do?

- My children
- My descendants
- My husband
- Me
- My extended family
- Those around me
- My church family
- My community

What is keeping me from doing this?

- Interruptions
- No time
- Too busy
- Not committed
- Don't see the need to
- Don't want to
- Too tired
- No direction or specific plan
- Don't understand what I'm reading
- Unrealistic expectations of how much time I can spend
- Goals I can't sustain
- Making other things more important
- Bored

- Don't know what to do
- No specific place
- Excuses
- Doing what comes easily
- Mismanaging my time
- Not a priority
- Noise level in household
- Laziness
- Distracted by media
- Can't see that it is changing me
- Not knowing where to start
- Giving up after missing a day or two
- Newborn to care for
- Need for self-control and discipline
- Facebook
- Need to make a commitment
- Decide to do other things
- Need for routine
- "To do" list that I make more important
- Need to put aside other responsibilities in order to focus
- Swayed by emotions and moods

What can I do to make this happen?

- Pray! Then make changes.
- Ask someone for advice and help.

- Establish a specific place and time.
- Have an accountability partner – text each other after we’ve finished reading each day.
- Start a Facebook group to encourage each other.
- Find materials to help give direction to my study (Carol Ruvolo, Kay Arthur, etc.).
- Follow 5-minute studies on Doorposts blog (*Doorposts of Your House*) or research other available online study and/or accountability groups
- Do a Bible study together with children for school (i.e., *Beauty and the Pig* or *Discover 4 Yourself Inductive Bible Studies for Kids*).
- Get up earlier.
- Listen to audio versions of Bible.
- Leave Bibles in different parts of house.
- Post verses to study throughout house.
- Involve children in study time.
- Study when husband is home to watch children.
- Read when nursing baby during night or in early morning.
- Write out study goals.
- Give each of the children a picture Bible for their age level. Set a timer and have them read/look at their Bibles while I study mine.
- Don’t turn on computer until I’ve read my Bible.
- Don’t look at phone until I’ve read my Bible.
- Read aloud with children.
- Have older child or husband read to me.
- Have older child care for younger ones while I study.
- Give children digital clocks, and tell them they can’t get up until they see the “7”.