

4 R Method for Everyday Bible Study

This Bible study method is a basic way to dig a little deeper into any biblical passage. You don't need extra tools or resources. All you need is your Bible, a pen, a notebook or journal, and a humble, teachable attitude. The "R" repetition makes it memorable! You can take it anywhere!

1. Read

A reading plan will help with consistency and context. Choose one that is manageable with the time you have.

- **Read prayerfully** – Ask God to give you understanding and to help you be willing to apply His truth.
- **Read multiple times** – It's easy to miss details and even deep truth with just one reading.
- **Read in different translations** - Reading in different translations will increase understanding.

2. Record

God's Word has one original meaning, but endless application. Our goal in this step is to understand what the passage originally meant and still means for us today. Look for:

- **Truths about God** – What does the passage teach about His nature, His character, His ways, and His purposes.
- **Key Words & Phrases** – Repetition in God's Word is not accidental. Repeated words and phrases are important.
- **Important facts** – Mark any facts you see in the passage – like people, places, and numbers - that will help you understand what's happening.
- **Commands** – Some commands were meant for specific individuals at a specific time, but others are for all God's people for all time.
- **Spiritual principles** – Eternal spiritual principles impact our daily lives. For instance, those who meditate constantly on God's Word will thrive spiritually and live fruitful lives (Psalm 1).

3. Recognize

– Look back over your recorded observations. Ask God to show you what eternal truths and principles this passage teaches. What does it teach about God, His character, and His ways? What do you learn about Jesus and what it means to follow Him? What do you learn about the church, salvation, a life of faith, godly relationships.

4. Respond

Spiritual transformation is always our goal. We can use the acronym PROBE to help us apply God's truth to our lives:

- **Prayer** – Is there something I need to pray for myself or others?
- **Repentance** – Is there a sin or area of disobedience I need to be confess and turn away from?
- **Obedience** – Is there an action I need to take or a decision I need to make?
- **Believe** – Is there something I need to believe about God?
- **Express** – Is there a praise or thanksgiving I need to voice to God?

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