

Reading Your Bible

Psalm 119:9-16

Introduction: We read our Bible fast for daily bible reading, But do we see the riches of the message?

How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word. I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. Praise be to you, Lord teach me your decrees. With my lips I recount all the laws that come from your mouth. I rejoice in following your statutes as one rejoices in great riches. I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word

I. Why Bible Reading is Important

v. 9 It is the path to purity

The primary purpose of reading the Bible is not to know the Bible but to know God, James Merritt
Romans 10:17 Isaiah 55:10-11

v. 10-11 It keeps us from sin

2 Timothy 3:16-17, John 8:32, Matthew 4:4

v. 12-16 It brings us pure joy, 1 Peter 2:2

II. How To Read Your Bible

v. 10 seeking with all my heart

Daily Bible Reading (3-4) chapters a day

10 chapters a day (260) NT in a month

Translations: dynamic and equivalent

Car: daily reading, find ways to expose yourself

John 10:14 I am good shepherd, sheep know voice

v. 11 Hiding it in my heart

Look for Jesus. Goal is not to be a better person,

it is to be more like Jesus, John 5:39

Memorize: read to be familiar, focus on important verses

v. 15 Meditation

Luke 8 parable of sower: hard, thorns, rocks, good

Takes time, needs to settle in

Pray before you read

Find a good spot to focus

See the small treasures

Apply to daily life

Mt 7:24 Whoever hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man.

You Are a Saint

1 Corinthians 1:2

I. You Are A Saint

“To those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus.”

Some think deceased person with high degree of holiness (halo)

5 years after death, 15 degrees of inquiry

must have miracles

average time is 50 years, could be 600

Close to God so they can ask favors

NOT IN SCRIPTURE

- A. Sanctified is verb for of haggios (same word for saint)
Robes white by blood, Bought by blood Eph 1:7
- B. Big deal in Corinth
Sosthenes (Acts 18:12-17) ruler of Synagogue (1 Cor. 1:1)
Even this man could be saved (Paul called chief of sinners)
- C. How are we saved?
Cornelius was successful and prayerful, but lost (Acts 10)
Saul of Tarsus was zealous but lost (Acts 9)
Philippian Jailer ignorant but lost, Acts 16
Saved by Christ. His death, burial, resurrection
2 Corinthians 5:21 He made him without sin...
Plan of salvation

II. You Are Called to be A Saint

“Called to be saints” adverb

A. God has saved you where you are but doesn't expect you to stay there.

Corinth was cesspool of immorality (to Corinthianize)

But v. 2 Church (called out) of God in Corinth

1 Corinthians 6:9-11. List 10 types of sins (and such were some of you)

But you were washed, sanctified, justified in name of Lord Jesus and Spirit of our God

Corinthians had much room to grow

Sins abound: Pride, Lawsuits, Marriage, worship services,

Stumbling blocks, resurrection

But God wrote them a letter to grow them.

B. God expects you to grow:

Knowing his word, Ps 119:11

Engaging in prayer, James 5:17, Lk 11:1

Frequent fellowship

Bearing fruit, Jn 15, Gal. 5

III. You Are Not Alone

With all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours.”

Be encouraged by:

- A. God's people at all times
Noah, Abraham, David, Jeremiah
Man is not the hero, God is the hero
- B. Christians in every place
Africa: Muslim advance
Lewistown Montana: very few
People in our congregation
- C. Love of our Lord
Romans 5:8
John 3:16
Hebrews 13 I will never leave you nor forsake