

How to Read the Bible

Pastor David Winston
@davidswinston



**“A BIBLE THAT’S
FALLING APART
USUALLY BELONGS TO
SOMEONE WHO ISN’T.”**

CHARLES SPURGEON

WARNING

Bible usage can be habit forming.

Regular reading of the Bible can cause loss of anxiety and fear and a decreased appetite for impatience and anger.

Symptoms include increased love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

If symptoms persist, just PRAISE the LORD!



- ▶ **WHEN WE READ THE BIBLE
WE HAVE TO REMEMBER
3 THINGS:**

▸ HOW TO READ THE BIBLE?

- **CONTEXT** – What was happening in the text surrounding the text?

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” ~Philippians 4:13 (NKJV)

▶ HOW TO READ THE BIBLE?



▸ HOW TO READ THE BIBLE?

- **CULTURE** – This includes environment and history.

EXAMPLE:

It was part of the historical Jewish culture not to eat pigs or to let women teach.



▸ HOW TO READ THE BIBLE?

- **AUDIENCE** – Who was this being written to?

EXAMPLE: The 4 gospels were written to different audiences, therefore there are some variations...

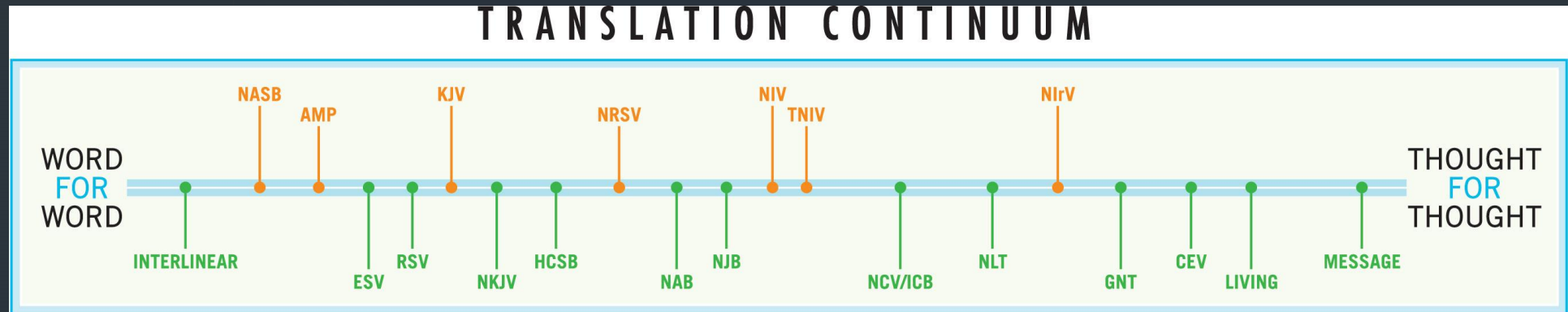
▸ HOW TO READ THE BIBLE?

- **MATTHEW:** *is the most Jewish-centric Gospel. It is speaking to a specifically Jewish audience to convince them that Jesus is the promised Messiah of God.*
- **MARK:** *is written a sermon that's a motivational call to action to Greeks. The purpose is not to be a detailed account but rather a call to action to convert Greeks.*

▸ HOW TO READ THE BIBLE?

- **LUKE:** *is a detailed account of the life of Jesus, intended to appeal to educated Greeks who are a whole generation removed from the life and ministry of Jesus. It is intended to show the validity of Jesus Christ.*
- **JOHN:** *hits different. It's not intended to convert, but is written to fully devoted Christians in the Church that John founded and led. This is an encouragement to believers to continue to believe on Christ.*

WHY ARE THERE DIFFERENT TRANSLATIONS?




This continuum shows how different Bible translations fit into the word-for-word and thought-for-thought translation philosophies.

For better understanding and communication

▶ **The Word helps you see in life!**

Psalms 119:105

*“Your word is a lamp to my feet
And a light to my path.”* 

▀ **HOW SHOULD WE READ THE BIBLE?**

- **Set aside a time where you can focus, in an environment that you can focus.**
- **Pray before starting.**
- **Have an open heart.**
- **Read whole chapters or passages at a time.**

HOW SHOULD WE READ THE BIBLE?

① book name — **Proverbs**

② chapter number — **Chapter 31**

③ verse number

25 She is clothed with strength and dignity;
she can laugh at the days to come.

26 She speaks with wisdom,
and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

27 She watches over the affairs of her
household and does not eat the bread
of idleness.

▶ HOW SHOULD WE READ THE BIBLE?

- You can choose a topic that's relevant to you, or a biblical character to study.
- Discover what stands out to you and **highlight** it. Allow the Word to speak to you.
- Once you finish reading the passage, go back to the **highlighted** verse(s) and spend 3-5 mins meditating it. Ask yourself *why does this verse stand out to me?* Ask God, *what are you saying to me through this text?*

▀ **HOW SHOULD WE READ THE BIBLE?**

- **Write down any revelations or what you learned.**
- **Set a goal for the bible reading**
- **Use a study Bible, or try different translations. If you are just starting out, start with New International Version (NIV).**

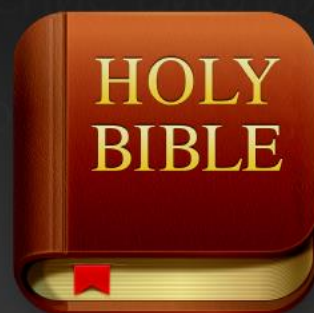
▶ HOW SHOULD WE READ THE BIBLE?

- Be consistent in reading it if you really want change. You can even let the Bible app read it to you.
- Try to develop a routine.
- There is no right or wrong order in which to read the bible. It is helpful to start at the beginning of books rather than the middle.
- Decide to practice the Word because it does us very little benefit when we don't.

WHAT DO I READ FOR DAILY DEVOS?

- **Proverbs** (wisdom, understanding)
- **Psalms** (wisdom, joy, thanksgiving)
- **The Gospels** (Jesus)
- **Pauline Epistles** (Daily Living, Instruction)
- **Old Testament** (Power of God)
- **Hebrews** (faith)

1 Proverb + 1 Psalm + 1 ch. of New Testament



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A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W Y Z

100 Bible Verses about Joy

 Like 304  Tweet 27  +1 11

[Romans 12:12](#) ESV / 460 helpful votes

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

[James 1:2](#) ESV / 353 helpful votes

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds,

[Philippians 4:4](#) ESV / 322 helpful votes

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

[Romans 15:13](#) ESV / 306 helpful votes

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may a