

Encountering God in the Scriptures 30 days of selected passages



"The goal is not for us to get through the Scriptures. The goal is to get the Scriptures through to us." (John Ortberg, The Life you've Always Wanted)

A suggested model for how to reflect on Scripture:

- Ask the Holy Spirit to speak to you through scripture & commit to reading the Bible with a readiness to obey and put into practice what it says.
- Meditate on a fairly brief passage, reading it slowly several times if necessary, allowing certain words or phrases to stand out and sink into your heart. When they do pray further into them, asking God, "What do you want to say to me in this moment?"
- Take one thought or verse with you to "chew on" throughout the day and seek to live it out!

Here are some suggested passages to work through. Take one passage a day to look at.

God's unconditional love for me

1. Isaiah 43:1-7 How does God see me?2. Luke 12:22-34 What worries or fears do I want to let go of?

3. Psalm 23 What words or images move me here?4. Psalm 131 Practise being still and quiet before God

5. Psalm 139:1-18 How does God see me?

6. Luke 15:11-32 How does God welcome me despite everything I have done?

Learning how to pray

1. Luke 11:1-13 Ask God to show you how to pray

2. Isaiah 55:1-13 Learn to listen to Him 3. Psalm 63:1-8 What do I thirst for?

4. Psalm 103 Praise Him and bless his holy name5. Romans 8:26-7 Pray that the Spirit will help you to pray

6. Ephesians 3:14-21 Where is God's awesome power at work in my life?

God's invitation to follow him

1. Mark 1:14-20 Will I accept his invitation to follow him?
2. Luke 1:26-38 What is God asking me to say "yes" to?

3. Mark 10:17-27 What attracts me to following Jesus and what hold me back?

4. Philippians 3:7-16 How is God calling me to 'press on towards the goal?'
5. John 3:22-30 How can 'He become greater and I become less?'
6. Matthew 14:22-32 Where is God calling me to 'step out' and follow Him?

God at work in your life

1. Jeremiah 18:1-9 How am I being shaped and moulded by God?

2. Jeremiah 29:11-14
3. Romans 8:18-25
4. Ezekiel 36:25-27
5. Psalm 51:1-12
6. Galatians 5:16-26
Pray that you will learn to 'seek him with all of your heart'
What do I want the Spirit to help me with in my weakness?
Where do I need to ask God to 'give me a new heart'?
Confess your sins and ask God to transform you.
Ask God to fill you more with the fruit of the Spirit.

Jesus' death and God's forgiveness

1. Luke 22:39-46 Try to imagine how Christ felt knowing all that was before him.

2. John 19:1-6 Reflect on Christ's humiliation and flogging for you.

3. Luke 22:26-43 Place yourself in the scene at the foot of the cross. What do you see?

4. Romans 5:1-11 Reflect on Christ's death, for you.

5. Isaiah 53:1-6 How have I 'gone astray'? 'By His wounds I am healed.'

6. Luke 7:36-50 Place yourself in this scene. Accept Jesus' forgiveness for you.