

HOW TO H.E.A.R. GOD'S WORD



READ GOD'S WORD WITH THE FOLLOWING IN MIND

Humility - Admit you can do nothing. (Jn 15:5)

Prayerfully - Pray for Help. (Ps 119:18; Ps 86:11)

Covenantally - Trust a specific promise.
(2 Chronicles 20:20; James 1:5; Romans 10:17)

Responsively - Obey what you read. (Phil 2:12)

Thankfully - Thank God for his provision and
goodness. (Ps 106:1)

STUDY GOD'S WORD WITH THE FOLLOWING IN MIND

Approach the Bible in prayer.

Read the Bible as a book that points to Jesus.

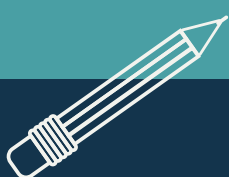
Let Scripture interpret Scripture.

Meditate on the passage.

Be a doer of the Word.

Read the Bible in Community.

USING THE HEAR METHOD TO READ, UNDERSTAND, APPLY, AND RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD



HIGHLIGHT

As you go through the daily bible readings, highlight a verse or verses that jump out at you. It can help to try and identify the main point of the passage. Consider the context. Ask why the author is writing and who he is writing to. Is there a redemptive emphasis within the passage? Or perhaps, its something you've never seen, heard, or understood. As you read and study expect and allow God's Word to speak.

EXPLAIN

Having highlighted part of or the main point of the daily reading, you are ready to explain its message or lesson. Ask the following questions:

- Why is the author making this point?
- Why did the author put the passage here?
- What is the author trying to say and why?
- What does the main point of the passage say about God?
- What does the main point of the passage say about Man?
- What does the main point of the passage say about Christ and salvation?

RESPOND

As you enter a time of response, keep the following in mind: Admit you need God's help to respond appropriately, Trust the truth of the passage, and Respond in obedience. Many find the "SPACEPETS" tool helpful:

Is there a SIN to confess? Do it!

Is there a PROMISE to claim? Do it!

Is there an ATTITUDE to change? Do it!

Is there a COMMAND to obey? Do it!

Is there an EXAMPLE to follow? Do it!

Is there a PRAYER to pray? Do it!

Is there an ERROR to avoid? Do it!

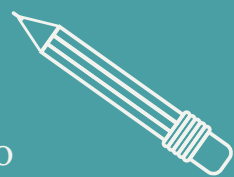
Is there a TRUTH to believe? Do it!

Is there SOMETHING for which to praise God?

APPLY

After thinking through the explanation of your highlighted verse(s), and what it is trying to communicate to the original audience, you are ready to determine how the audience was meant to apply and obey it. Then, you may bridge the gap to apply it to today. Remember to always expect application and always expect Scripture to show us how God redeems us from sin and death. Be specific: Whether there is a command or a prohibition, we are expected to obey. Some things may no longer apply because of our location in salvation history or cultural situation, but ask the question: Does the principle behind it apply?

HEAR ENTRY EXAMPLE PHILIPPIANS 4



H (Highlight) - "I am able to do all things through Him who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

E (Explain) - Paul was telling the church at Philippi that he has discovered the secret of contentment. No matter the situation in Paul's life, he realized that Christ was all he needed, and Christ was the one who strengthened him to persevere through difficult times.

A (Apply) - In my life, I will experience many ups and downs. My contentment is not found in circumstances. Rather, it is based on my relationship with Jesus Christ. Only Jesus gives me the strength I need to be content in every circumstance of life.

R (Respond) - Lord Jesus, I confess my sin of discontentment. Please help me as I strive to be content in You and You alone. Through Your strength, I can make it through any situation I face.

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resources, guides, and to join a Core Group!

