

WAYS TO ENGAGE WITH GOD WHEN STUDYING THE BIBLE

WORSHIP

- **Thanksgiving:** Enter God's presence by thanking Him for specific things.
- **Worship:** Sing to the Lord a new song from your heart or create a playlist of worship songs that easily lead you into the presence of God.

WORD

- **Study the Bible:** Pick a book of the Bible and systematically read one to three chapters a day. Highlight verses that grab your attention. Pick a topic like grace, peace or holiness and gather verses to memorize and meditate. Pick a person in the Bible and study their life, asking God for insight.
- **Pray the Bible:** We are transformed when we take the Bible into God's presence and interact with Him. Read a verse and then pray it back to God, speaking directly to Him. (Pray Psalm 1, 23, 103, 139)
 - Meditate on who God is: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Read one Scripture at a time and thank Him for who He is.
 - Meditate on who you are in Christ: Read one Scripture at a time and thank Him for who you are in Christ as a new creation.
- **Memorize the Bible:** Make a list of Scriptures you want to memorize—individual verses, verses focusing on a theme, an entire chapter, or a section of Scripture.
 - *FOR VISUAL LEARNERS*

Write the first letter of each word of a verse on an index card, with the complete verse on the back. Read the verse, flip the card and let the letters cue your memory to say the verse.

Read—Write—Recall. Read a verse, write it down and then try to recall it. Repeat these three steps ten times.

Write the verse on paper five, 10, 20 times, then recite.

Use a different color pen for each phrase or sentence as you write out the verse.

Write verses on sticky notes and put them around the house as a reminder to stop, read and recite.
 - *FOR AUDITORY LEARNERS*

Listen to an audio recording of the verse. Listen multiple times or pause after each phrase to repeat it.

Read the verse aloud to yourself or others until you can say it without reading. Write the verse several times—say the verse aloud as you write.

Record yourself saying the verses, then listen to it.

Sing the verse. Sing the words to a spontaneous melody or put the verse to a tune you know.

WAYS TO ENGAGE WITH GOD WHEN STUDYING THE BIBLE

- *FOR KINESTHETIC (MOVEMENT) LEARNERS*
Do something active while listening to the passage. Run, work out or go for a walk.
Make up physical motions to go with the verse. Kids love this, but it helps adults internalize the verse as well.
Act out the verse while listening to it.
- *FOR LARGER PORTIONS OF SCRIPTURE*
Break down the verses into shorter segments or paragraphs.
Focus on one segment at a time. Write it out by hand or print it on paper.
Within the segment, write keywords in bold to create a memory map. Write only the bold keywords, then recite.
Write the verses in some kind of visual pattern—each phrase on a separate line or using indentations.
As you combine sections, highlight or circle the first few words of each segment as a memory tool to connect the segments.

LISTEN

- **Listen and Journal:** Ask, “Father, is there anything You want to speak to me today?” Write in a journal the words, images, and Scriptures God speaks to you. His voice will always align with Scripture and with His character. Ask other specific questions. Wait in His presence with a listening heart. Enjoy being with Him.
 - Ask, “Lord, is there anything You want to **exchange** with me?” (E.g., burdens for His peace, fear for His perfect love or heaviness for His joy)
 - Ask, “Father, is there anyone You want to **encourage**? What do You want to say to them?” Listen for words of encouragement that He speaks for others, write them down and give it to them or pray it over them.