

# BE TRANSFORMED. KNOW GOD'S WORD.

Does the idea of reading the Bible sound exciting to you? Perhaps not if it seems intimidating, or boring, or irrelevant. But what if you knew that God speaks personally to you when you read or listened to His Word?

The truth is God continually speaks to us through the Bible every time we engage with it – whether it's learning something new about God or yourself, or being reminded of something you already knew but had drifted away from, or receiving a specific word from God to you personally just for that day. God speaks through His Word by His Spirit!

Engaging with God's Word can be done in many creative ways, so it's important to try a few and find a way that is effective for you. Here are a few ideas:

- Listen to the Bible being read – some people are auditory learners and most Bible Apps have this option. This is actually how the Bible was read in Jesus' day as few people had their own written copies.
- Read a printed Bible and make notes – you can write in your Bible (yes, that's allowed) or in a journal what God seems to be highlighting for you that day. Reading through these notes later on can be very encouraging and help you notice what God keeps saying to you.
- Read a Bible App – you can make notes in some Bible apps or use a journal to write what God seems to be saying to you, along with your own reflections. You don't need to journal every day, but recording any key thoughts or questions can help you discern God's voice and better understand your own mind and heart.

## How do you start?

Just start – don't worry about doing it perfectly or constantly. Set aside a regular time each day when it works for you, and find a Bible-reading buddy who will do the same so you can support each other. You're much more likely to read the Bible if you have a friend or two doing the same thing.

There are many Bible reading apps and plans available, and quite a few are listed on [youversion.com](https://www.youversion.com). If you are lost in all the options, pick one of these:

- Read through all 4 books about Jesus' life (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) in 90 days (video clips included): <https://www.bible.com/en-GB/reading-plans/8868-bibleproject-gospels>
- Read the New Testament in one year: <https://www.bible.com/en-GB/reading-plans/141-read-through-the-new-testament>
- Read the whole Bible in one year: <https://www.bible.com/en-GB/reading-plans/206-eat-this-book>
- Watch an introduction to reading and understanding the Bible: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/category/how-to-read-bible-introduction/>
- Watch an overview of the New Testament: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/new-testament-overview/>
- Watch an overview of the Old Testament: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/old-testament-tanak/>

## What's next?

Here are some other ways you can grow in reading and understanding God's Word:

- Take a class that increases your understanding of God's word: <https://www.cschurch.ca/event/2022-11-19-introduction-to-reading-the-bible/>
- Questions about life, faith and God? Join alpha: [alpha@cschurch.ca](mailto:alpha@cschurch.ca)
- Join a community to memorize passages in the Bible: [smc@cschurch.ca](mailto:smc@cschurch.ca)
- Discuss the most recent weekend message from the Bible with others <https://www.cschurch.ca/sermon-study-guide/>
- Connect with a mentor to disciple you in the basics of the Christian faith, including Bible reading and memorization <https://www.cschurch.ca/nextstep/discipleship/>

For other resources to help you explore and engage with God's Word, contact Greg Grunau, Pastor of Spiritual Development, at [greg.grunau@cschurch.ca](mailto:greg.grunau@cschurch.ca) or 403-520-1213.