

It's Personal:

EFFECTIVE TIME WITH GOD

A plan for turning prayer and reading
the Bible into a TIME WITH GOD

Purpose

- Get to know God
- Begin to know God's ways
- Get on the same page with God

Tools

- BIBLE – NLT, NIV, NRSV, NASB with wide margins
- Journal
- Pen and highlighter

Agenda

- Psalms + Prayer
- Prayer
- Bible + Prayer

1. Psalms + Prayer

Praying the Psalms back to God (as if they originated with you).

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work. **2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17**

WORD LIST:

ZION: Jerusalem—the hill on which the Jerusalem temple was built

PSALMS OF ASSENT: Psalms sung by Israelites on their way to Jerusalem for a Feast or to worship at the temple

SHEOL: The place of the dead

PRECEPTS, STATUTES, JUDGMENTS, TESTIMONIES, ORDINANCES: The Law (Exodus–Deuteronomy), for Christians, equals God's word

LOVINGKINDNESS: “Chesed” = constant, unconditional, unchanging, covenant love like the love God **CHOSE** to demonstrate toward Israel that would not be turned aside by Israel's unfaithfulness

Praying the Psalms often inspires prayer that is broader than the scope of the topic addressed in the Psalm.

2. Prayer

P
PRAISE &
THANKSGIVING

PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

The Psalms add to our reasons for praising and thanking God.

REPENT

If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us, but if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. **1 JOHN 1:8-9**

R
REPENT

A
ASK

ASK

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. **MATTHEW 7:7**

YIELD

...Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Yours be done. **LUKE 22:42**

Y
YIELD

3. Bible and Prayer

We read the Bible because we want to know God and know His ways so we can be on the “same page” with God.

He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the sons of Israel. **PSALM 103:7**

When **READING** the **BIBLE** be aware of the **CONTEXT** for whatever you’re reading.

BIBLE READING PLAN

- Begin with the New Testament. Start in Chapter 1 and read at least one chapter a day. If you read just one chapter a day, you will read through the New Testament in less than a year.
- Read a chapter of Proverbs—one for each day of the month. There are 31 chapters in Proverbs. By reading chapters that correspond to the day of the month, you will read through Proverbs 12 times in a year.
- After you complete the New Testament, either read it again, or start reading the Old Testament with Genesis 1. Begin with the narrative parts before you read the Prophets and remaining Wisdom literature.

NARRATIVE PARTS INCLUDE:

- Genesis and portions of Exodus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy
- Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1st and 2nd Samuel; 1st and 2nd Kings; 1st and 2nd Chronicles
- Portions of Jeremiah and Daniel
- Ezra, Esther, and Nehemiah

- Add Job, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon
- When you're ready for the Prophets, it might be good to purchase a good study Bible that will help you understand why God sent the Prophet and what his message was addressing. A couple of good study Bibles are the NRSV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible published by Zondervan and the Nelson Study Bible (NKJV) published by Thomas Nelson.
- Other options include purchasing a One-Year Bible in which the Prophets are inserted chronologically into the appropriate place in the narrative.

BIBLE + PRAYER

If you are reading to know God and His ways, there will be times when a prayer response will be appropriate for whatever you are reading.

Be angry and yet do not sin, do not let the sun go down on your anger and do not give the devil an opportunity. **EPHESIANS 4:26-27**

Therefore, if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering.

MATTHEW 5:23-24

PUTTING WHAT YOU'VE LEARNED INTO PRACTICE

- If you do not have a regular time with God:
 - Determine when you will start
 - Tell God
 - Ask God for help
 - Set your alarm
- If you do have a regular time with God, pick something you learned and try it.



PSALM 25

Prayer for Protection, Guidance and Pardon. A Psalm of David.

- 1 To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. 2 O my God, in You I trust. 3 Indeed, none of those who wait for You will be ashamed. 4 Make me know Your ways, O LORD. 5 Lead me in Your truth and teach me. 6 Remember, O LORD, Your compassion and Your lovingkindnesses. 7 Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions. 8 Good and upright is the LORD. 9 He leads the humble in justice. 10 All the paths of the LORD are lovingkindness and truth. 11 For Your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my iniquity. 12 Who is the man who fears the LORD? 13 His soul will abide in prosperity. 14 The secret of the LORD is for those who fear Him.

4 2Or harm bPs 3:6; 27:1 cPs 16:8; Is 43:2 dMic 7:14 5 1Or anoint aPs 78:19 bPs 92:10; Lk 7:46 cPs 16:5 6 1Or Only 2Another reading is return to 3Lit for length of days aPs 25:7; 10 bPs 27:4-6 24:1 1Lit its fullness a1 Co 10:26 bPs 89:11 2 aPs 104:3; 5; 136:6 3 aPs 15:1 bPs 2:6 cPs 65:4 4 1Or in vain aJob 17:9; Ps 22:30; 26:6 bPs 51:10; 73:1; Mt 5:8 cEze 18:15 dPs 15:4 5 1I.e. as vindicated aPs 115:13 bPs 36:10 6 1Or Such 2Selah may mean: Pause, Crescendo or Musical interlude aPs 27:4, 8 7 1Lit everlasting aPs 118:20; Is 26:2 bPs 29:2, 9; 97:6; Ac 7:2; 1 Co 2:8 8 aDt 4:34; Ps 96:7 bEx 15:3, 6; Ps 76:3-6 9 1Lit everlasting aPs 26:8; 57:11 10 aGe 32:2; Jos 5:14; 2 Sa 5:10; Ne 9:6 25:1 aPs 86:4; 143:8 2 aPs 31:1 bPs 25:20; 31:1 cPs 13:4; 41:11 3 1Or Let those...be ashamed aPs 37:9; 40:1; Is 49:23 bPs 119:158; Is 21:2; Hab 1:13 4 aEx 33:13; Ps 27:11; 86:11 5 aPs 25:10; 43:3 bPs 79:9 cPs 40:1 6 1Or everlasting aPs 98:3 bPs 103:17 7 aJob 13:26; 20:11 bPs 51:1 cPs 31:19. 8 aPs 86:5 bPs 92:15 cPs 32:8 9 1Or afflicted aPs 23:3 bPs 27:11 10 aPs 40:11 bPs 103:18 11 aPs 31:3; 79:9 bEx 34:9 12 aPs 31:19 bPs 25:8; 37:23 13 1Lit good 2Lit seed 3Or earth aPr 1:33; Jer 23:6 bPs 37:11; 69:36; Mt 5:5 14 1Or counsel or intimacy 2Or And His covenant, to make them know it aPr 3:32; Jn 7:17 bGe 17:1, 2

PSALM 24

The King of Glory Entering Zion. A Psalm of David.

- 1 The earth is the LORD's, and all it contains. 2 For He has founded it upon the seas. 3 Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? 4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart. 5 He shall receive a blessing from the LORD. 6 This is the generation of those who seek Your face. 7 Lift up your heads, O gates. 8 Who is the King of glory? 9 Lift up your heads, O gates. 10 Who is this King of glory?

YES YOU DO EVERY MORNING

YES IT DOES

OH YES

OH LORD! AMEN! AMEN! Oh my Salvation

How cool is this? The way you think

Because of Jesus O = O who forgives? Delights to pardon iniquity?

OH THANK YOU

Oh a hand

ob, for all you or the ce from l for se in e those e be bpraise er! will he e fore ORD's ations. e earth to the im eep his n; l to bthe l declare e born, it. Shepherd. erd; in a green quiet paths of rough the of death, s 85:13; Pr 4:11; 5b 10:21, 22; Ps

And to take ^aMy covenant in your mouth?
 17 "For you ^ahate discipline, And you ^bcast My words behind you.
 18 "When you see a thief, you ¹are pleased with him, And ²you ^bassociate with adulterers.
 19 "You ¹let your mouth loose in evil And your ^btongue frames deceit.
 20 "You sit and ^aspeak against your brother; You slander your own mother's son.
 21 "These things you have done and ^aI kept silence; You thought that I was just like you; I will ^breprove you and state the case in order before your eyes.
 22 "Now consider this, you who ^aforget God, Or I will ^btear you in pieces, and there will be none to deliver.
 23 "He who ^aoffers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors Me; And to him who ^borders his way ^aright I shall ^cshow the salvation of God."

PSALM 51

A Contrite Sinner's Prayer for Pardon.

For the choir director.
 A Psalm of David, when ^aNathan the prophet came to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

1 ^aBe gracious to me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness. *which is your forgiveness*
 According to the greatness of Your compassion blot out my transgressions.
 2 ^aWash me thoroughly from my iniquity And ^bcleanse me from my sin.
 3 For ¹I ^aknow my transgressions, And my sin is ever before me.
 4 ^aAgainst You, You only, I have sinned And done what is ^bevil in Your sight, So that ^cYou ¹are justified ²when You speak And ³blameless when You judge.
 5 Behold, I was ^bbrought forth in iniquity,

16 ^aIs 29:13
 17 ^aPr 5:12; 12:1; Ro 2:21, 22 ^b1 Ki 14:9; Ne 9:26
 18 ¹Some ancient versions read run together ²Lit your part is with ^aRo 1:32 ^b1 Ti 5:22
 19 ¹Lit send ^aPs 10:7 ^bPs 36:3; 52:2
 20 ^aJob 19:18; Mt 10:21
 21 ^aEcc 8:11; Is 42:14; 57:11 ^bPs 90:8
 22 ^aJob 8:13; Ps 9:17 ^bPs 7:2
 23 ¹Lit sets ^aPs 50:14 ^bPs 85:13 ^cPs 91:16
 51:1 ²Sa 12:1
^aPs 4:1; 109:26
^bPs 69:16; 106:45
^cPs 51:9; Is 43:25; 44:22; Ac 3:19;
 Col 2:14
 2 ^aPs 51:7; Is 1:16; 4:4; Jer 4:14; Ac 22:16; Rev 1:5
^bJer 33:8; Eze 36:33; Heb 9:14; 1 Jn 1:7, 9
 3 ¹Or I myself know ^aIs 59:12
 4 ¹Or may be in the right ²Many mss read in Your words ³Lit pure ^aGe 20:6; 39:9; 2 Sa 12:13; Ps 41:4 ^bLk 15:21
^cRo 3:4
 5 ^aJob 14:4; 15:14; Ps 58:3; Eph 2:3
 6 ¹Or inward parts ^aJob 38:36; Ps 15:2 ^bPr 2:6; Ecc 2:26; Jas 1:5
 7 ¹Or May You purify... that I may be clean ²Or May You wash ^aEx 12:22; Lv 14:4; Nu 19:18; Heb 9:19 ^bIs 1:18
 8 ¹Or May You make ^aIs 35:10; Joel 1:16 ^bPs 35:10
 9 ^aJer 16:17
 10 ¹Lit for ²Or an upright ^aEze 18:31; Eph 2:10 ^bPs 24:4; Mt 5:8; Ac 15:9 ^cPs 78:37
 11 ^aKi 13:23; 24:20; Jer 7:15 ^bIs 63:10, 11
 12 ^aPs 13:5 ^bPs 110:3
 13 ¹Or turn back ^aAc 9:21, 22 ^bPs 22:27
 14 ^a2 Sa 12:9; Ps 26:9 ^bPs 25:5 ^cPs 35:28; 71:15
 15 ¹Or may You open ^aEx 4:15 ^bPs 9:14
 16 ^a1 Sa 15:22; Ps 40:6
 17 ^aPs 34:18
 18 ¹Or May You build ^aPs 69:35; Is 51:3 ^bPs 102:16; 147:2
 19 ¹Or sacrifices of righteousness ²Lit they will offer young bulls ^aPs 4:5 ^bPs 66:13; 15

And in sin my mother conceived me.
 6 Behold, You desire ^atruth in the innermost being, And in the hidden part You will make me know wisdom.
 7 ¹Purify me ^awith hyssop, and I shall be clean; and I shall be whiter than snow.
 8 ¹Make me to hear ^ajoy and gladness, Let the ^bbones which You have broken rejoice.
 9 ^aHide Your face from my sins And blot out all my iniquities.
 10 ^aCreate ¹in me a ^bclean heart, O God, And renew ²a ^csteadfast spirit within me.
 11 ^aDo not cast me away from Your presence And do not take Your ^bHoly Spirit from me.
 12 Restore to me the ^ajoy of Your salvation And sustain me with a ^bwilling spirit.
 13 Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners will ^bbe converted to You.
 14 Deliver me from ^abloodguiltiness, O God, ^bthe God of my salvation; Then my tongue will joyfully sing of Your righteousness.
 15 O Lord, ¹open my lips, That my mouth may ^bdeclare Your praise.
 16 For You ^ado not delight in sacrifice, otherwise I would give it; You are not pleased with burnt offering.
 17 The sacrifices of God are a ^bbroken spirit; A broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.
 18 ^aBy Your favor do good to Zion; ^bBuild the walls of Jerusalem.
 19 Then You will delight in ¹righteous sacrifices, In ^bburnt offering and whole burnt offering; Then ²young bulls will be offered on Your altar.

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Futility of B
 For the choir David, when and told Saul a has come to th
 1 You do yo mighty m
The loving endures a
 2 Your tongu Like a shar deceit.
 3 You love e ^bFalsehood what is rig
 4 You love all O ^adeceitful
 5 But God w forever; He will snat you away And uproot of the livin
 6 The righteo And will bla
 7 Behold, the make God But ^atrusted his riches And ^bwas st desire.
 8 But as for m olive tree I trust in th God foreve
 9 I will ^agive Y because Yo And I will w for it is go of Your god
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Folly and W
 For the choir d ^aMahalath. A
 1 ^aThe fool has "There is n They are cor committed injustice; ^bThere is no
 2 God has look heaven upo To see if ther ¹understand Who ^bseeks a
 3 ^aEvery one of

PSALM 52

Futility of Boastful Wickedness.

For the choir director. A Maskil of David, when Doeg the Edomite came and told Saul and said to him, "David has come to the house of Ahimelech."

1 Why do you boast in evil, O mighty man?

2 The lovingkindness of God endures all day long.

3 Your tongue devises destruction, Like a sharp razor, O worker of deceit.

4 You love evil more than good, Falsehood more than speaking what is right.

5 You love all words that devour, O deceitful tongue.

6 But God will break you down forever; He will snatch you up and tear you away from your tent, And uproot you from the land of the living.

7 The righteous will see and fear, And will laugh at him, saying,

8 "Behold, the man who would not make God his refuge, But trusted in the abundance of his riches.

9 And was strong in his evil desire."

10 But as for me, I am like a green olive tree in the house of God;

11 I trust in the lovingkindness of God forever and ever.

12 I will give You thanks forever, because You have done it, And I will wait on Your name, for it is good, in the presence of Your godly ones.

PSALM 53

Folly and Wickedness of Men.

For the choir director; according to Mahalath. A Maskil of David.

1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God."

2 They are corrupt, and have committed abominable injustice;

3 There is no one who does good.

4 God has looked down from heaven upon the sons of men To see if there is anyone who understands, Who seeks after God.

5 Every one of them has turned

aside; together they have become corrupt;

There is no one who does good, not even one.

4 Have the workers of wickedness and no knowledge,

Who eat up My people as though they ate bread

And have not called upon God?

5 There they were in great fear where no fear had been;

For God scattered the bones of him who encamped against you;

You put them to shame, because God had rejected them.

6 Oh, that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion!

When God restores His captive people,

Let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.

PSALM 54

Prayer for Defense against Enemies.

For the choir director; on stringed instruments. A Maskil of David, when the Ziphites came and said to Saul, "Is not David hiding himself among us?"

1 Save me, O God, by Your name, And vindicate me by Your power.

2 Hear my prayer, O God; Give ear to the words of my mouth.

3 For strangers have arisen against me

And violent men have sought my life;

They have not set God before them.

4 Behold, God is my helper; The Lord is the sustainer of my soul.

5 He will recompense the evil to my foes;

6 Destroy them in Your faithfulness.

7 Willingly I will sacrifice to You; I will give thanks to Your name, O LORD, for it is good.

8 For He has delivered me from all trouble,

And my eye has looked with satisfaction upon my enemies.

52:1. Possibly Contemplative, or Didactic, or Skillful Psalm #1 Sa 22:9 #Ps 94:4 #Ps 52:8 2 #Ps 5:9 #Ps 57:4; 59:7; #Ps 101:7 3 Selah may mean: Pause, Crescendo or Musical Interlude #Ps 36:4 #Ps 58:3; Jer 9:5 4 #Ps 120:3 5 Or Also #Is 22:18, 19 #Pr 2:22 #Ps 27:13 6 #Ps 37:34; 40:3 #Job 22:19 7 Or his destruction #Ps 49:6; #Ps 10:6 8 #Ps 92:12; 128:3; Jer 11:16 #Ps 13:5 9 #Ps 30:12 #Ps 54:6 53:1. i.e. sickness, a sad tone. Possibly Contemplative, or Didactic, or Skillful Psalm #Ps 10:4; 14:1-7; 53:1-6 #Ro 3:10 2 Or acts wisely #Ro 3:11 #2 Ch 15:2 3 #Ro 3:12 4 Jer 4:22 5 Or dread Or possibly those #Lv 26:17, 36; Pr 28:1 #Ps 141:7; Jer 8:1, 2; Eze 6:5 #Ps 44:7 #2 Ki 17:20; Jer 6:30; La 5:22 6 Lit would be Or restores the fortunes of His people Or Jacob will rejoice, Israel will be glad #Ps 147 54:1. Possibly Contemplative, or Didactic, or Skillful Psalm #1 Sa 23:19; 26:1 Lit Judge #Ps 20:1 #2 Ch 20:6 2 #Ps 17:6; 55:1 #Ps 5:1 3 Or soul Selah may mean: Pause, Crescendo or Musical Interlude #Ps 86:14 #Ps 18:48; 86:14; 140:1, 4, 11 #1 Sa 20:1; 25:29; #Ps 40:14; 63:9; 70:2 #Ps 36:1 4 Lit as those who sustain #Ps 90:10; 37:40; 118:7 #Ps 37:17; 24:41; 12; 51:12; 145:14; Is 41:10 5 Lit The evil will return Or those who lie in wait for me Or Put to silence Or truth #Ps 94:23 #Ps 143:12; #Ps 89:49; 96:13; Is 42:3 6 Or With a tree will offering #Nu 15:3; #Ps 116:17 #Ps 50:14; 54:7 1 Or It; i.e. His name Or distress #Ps 34:6 #Ps 59:10; 92:11; 112:8; 118:7

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