

Asbury Church
10 Practical Tips on Reading Your Bible

1. This is God's message to YOU, not just to theologians and pastors. Know that God has a message for you when you read the Scriptures.
2. Invest in a Bible translation you can easily understand. A few you may want to try: Today's New International Version, New Living Translation, The Message.
3. Read and study at a pace that is meaningful for you. You may want to take just a few verses at a time to think about, study, and apply to your life.
4. Pray before you read. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you things in the Scriptures and in your life as you read and study.
5. Start simply. Read books you can better understand before diving into more complicated books and passages.
6. Seek the help of others in understanding Scripture. Talk about what you are learning, what confuses you, what challenges you. See how others understand it.
7. Work at it. Keep trying, searching, and learning. Anything worthwhile in life takes effort, and studying Scripture is certainly no exception.
8. Ask these key questions every time you read: What did the writer want the original readers to understand? What does it mean for me? What am I going to do about it?
9. If you are able, invest in a good Study Bible, Bible handbook, Bible dictionary, and Bible commentaries. There are many good online helps and commentaries as well.
10. Be ready to obey. If you read God's Word, expect to put into practice for your life.

Don't hesitate to get more help - please feel free to contact the pastors and staff.