



Message Notes

How To Read The Bible

Series: **HOW** (Week 2 of 8)

Marion Arbuckle, Tidal Creek Fellowship

Sunday, July 9, 2017

Psalm 119:48, Hebrews 4:12a

⁴⁸*I will lift up my hands toward your commandments, which I love, and I will meditate on your statutes.* Psalm 119:48 ESV

¹²*For the word of God is living and active...* Hebrews 4:12a ESV

"...life, for most of us, feels like a movie we've arrived to forty minutes late. Sure, good things happen. But tragic things happen too. What does it mean? We find ourselves in the middle of a story that is sometimes wonderful, sometimes awful, but usually a confusing mixture of both. And, we haven't a clue how to make sense of it all. No wonder we keep losing heart. We need to know the rest of the story." —John Eldredge, EPIC

The Bible contains the rest of the story!

Getting Started—

1. Choose a Bible.
 - A. Two primary means of translation:
 1. Word-for-word
 2. Thought-for-thought
 - B. Which translation? Highly recommended: *New Living Translation* (NLT) and *English Standard Version* (ESV). Other good translations: *The Message* (MSG), *New International Version* (NIV), *New American Standard Bible* (NASB).
2. Make a reading plan. First timers: start slow and small!
 - A. youversion.com or bible.com

B. *Biblegateway.com*

3. Read the Bible in the context of community. Acts 2:42-47

Engaging the Scriptures—

1. Reading for Story (**KNOW**) ²⁷*And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.* Luke 24:27 ESV

A. Beginning readers (**KNOW-GROW**) start with Mark, then I— II Samuel

B. Advanced readers (**GIVE-GO**) start with Luke, then Genesis-Exodus

2. Reading for Study (**GROW**) ¹⁶*All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness.* ¹⁷*that the man of God may be equipped for every good work.*

2 Timothy 3:16-17 ESV

A. Understanding Context:

1. Author—Who is it?

2. Recipients—Who are they?

3. Reason for the book—Why?

4. Genre— Is it poetry, history, prophecy, gospel, letter?

5. What was the author's intent? What did it mean to the original readers or hearers?

B. Answering the preceding questions:

1. From the text itself

2. From notes in a Study Bible

3. Bible Dictionary

4. Commentary

3. Reading for Transformation/Sanctification (**GIVE-GO**) ¹⁷*"Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.* ¹⁸*As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.* ¹⁹*And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.* John 17:17-19 ESV

A. So What?

B. Now What?

C. What do I need to **Believe**?

D. How do I need to **Obey**?

E. Do I need to **Confess sin** and **Repent**?

F. Do I need to be **Grateful**?

share the life