

The Message Gathering

The Art Of Relational Reading #2 What Is Relational Reading?

Review Of Last Week:

- Why People Find It Difficult And Struggle To Read The Bible
- The Difference Between Law And Grace
- Our Life; The Difference Between Duty And Devotion

What Is The Difference?

- Mechanical Reading Is Forced.
 - It Has A Determined Number Of Scriptures You Must Read So That You Can Check The Box And Now You Have Done Your Duty.
- Relational Reading Is Conversational.
 - It May Have A List To Guide You, But There Are No Boxes To Check.
 - You Don't Read Out Of Duty, But Out Of Devotion.

2 Peter 1:20-21 (NIV)

Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. ²¹ For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 10:11 (NIV)

These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come.

Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)

For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

So Since It's Written By The Holy Spirit - As A Means Of Relating Instruction - And It's Living and Active - You Can Actually Relate To What's Being Said Via The Holy Spirit -The 3rd Part Of The Trinity- Who Now Lives In You!

John 16:13a. (NIV)

But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth.

The Unexpected Benefits of Relational Reading:

1. You Have Increased Ability To Hear God's Voice
Because You Become Accustomed To The Tone, Tempo And Timbre
2. You Get To Know His Thoughts And His Opinions
It Begins To Shape Your Values So You Value What He Values
3. You Enjoy Increased Stability
Because You're Regularly Viewing And Engaging With The Living God, You See A Much Bigger Picture
4. You Become A Trusted Resource
For Those In Your World

Today's Statement Of Truth:

Relational Reading Connects You To God In Such A Way
That You Become Blessed, And A Blessing To Your World.

Questions:

- Share A Time You Used A Mechanical Reading Plan And Its Results.
- What Are Your Thoughts About The Fact That God's Word Was Inspired By The Holy Spirit.
- What Do You Think It Means When It Says In Hebrews "For God's Word Is Living And Active"?
- How Does The Truth Of God's Word Being Living And Active Affect Your Daily Life?
- Do You Regularly Communicate With God During Your Time Of Reading The Bible?
- Of The Unexpected Benefits Listed:
 - Increased Ability To Hear God's Voice
 - Knowing His Thoughts And Opinions
 - Enjoying Increased Stability
 - Becoming A Trusted ResourceWhich One Would You Like To Experience More?
- Have You Ever Experienced Someone Viewing You As A "Trusted Resource"? If Yes, Share How You Felt About Such A Great Privilege.

