

## PRAYER: PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS

**THREE MAIN SECTIONS OF YOUR TIME WITH GOD:** You will find them intermingling – you’ll be reading a passage and that will cause you to pray about something, or praise God for something.

**NOTE:** Have a journal or note-taking app open and ready to write down thoughts and insights as you move through your time with God.

Notes (Apple); Keep (Android); Color Note (Android); Notability, Evernote, “Day One Journal/Private Diary”.

Worship is an important part of this time – I suggest you use it as the “brackets” of your time – begin and end with worship.

## BIBLE



The NIV STUDENT BIBLE (Zondervan, Phil Yancey editor) is a great resource.

**DIGITAL:** With some of these apps, you can sign up (free) and it will track your reading, and you can sign up for a daily reminder/notification! There is also an audible option in most of these, where it will read the Bible to you! You can do it “on the go”.

\*\*Bible Gateway.com – Good on-line resource; also an app.

\*\*YouVersion – or called “Holy Bible” -



“Bible” is the text of the Bible. You can download most of them free.  
“Plans” has links to topical devotionals, and Bible Reading plans.



\*\*Our Daily Bread: Scripture, written or audio. Short devotional – NOTE: read the Scriptures!! There are hyper-links to read the Bible in a Year. The Home Page has links to topical devotionals. There are some for teens.

\*\*You can also get print or digital copies of “The One Year Bible” in different translations, which gives you readings from OT, NT, Psalms each day. But it’s free on YOUVERSION! (Plans, Through the Bible) HINT: if you miss a day or two, don’t panic – just skip to today’s date.

For serious study, you should use a translation, but for daily reading, you may find a paraphrase easier to understand – Living Bible, Message. Don’t be afraid to try several!

As you read, when something strikes you – “oh, that’s good/interesting/helpful”, jot it down in your journal, along with “what it meant to me today”.

## PRAYER

You might want to go back to the studies we did on in Jan./Feb. 2024 on prayer – YOUTUBE, Open Door Community Augusta, Ga, playlists, prayer.

Adoration (praise, worship)

Confession

Thanksgiving

Supplication (requests)

Jon Gordon:

Praise

Repent

Ask

Yield to God’s will

Expect God to answer

Receive – “I receive what You have for me today.”

If you know how to \_\_\_\_\_, you know how to pray! Talk to God like you talk to a friend.

List – of people – family, friends, church, government leaders, requests from prayer chain. You’ll probably start with those closest to you and move out.

Pray the \_\_\_\_\_ – maybe what you read was especially helpful – turn it into a prayer.

General and specific. “Your Kingdom come in their lives”. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem. Then move to specific prayers: “John needs a job”, my child has a big test today; my spouse has an important interview today”.....

If you’re in the middle of a crisis, or facing a major decision, or a loved one is going through a challenging time, THAT may be the entirety of your praying – and that’s okay! Don’t be bound to a list!

Through all this time, take time to breathe and let God speak to you: What do You want me to \_\_\_\_\_? What do you want me to \_\_\_\_\_?

As you pray, and God reminds you of the answers you’ve already received, write them down in your journal.

Pray for you! Off-Loading Stress Prayer

Father, You are God, even in the stress-filled times. On my own I could feel overwhelmed, but Scripture tells me you care about every detail of my life. Right now, the stress I feel most intensely is \_\_\_\_\_. Show me steps I can take, and give me the courage to take them. Calm my spirit, Lord, as I trust you to bring good in this situation. Amen.

## WORSHIP

I suggest making at least 2 playlists: one instrumental that you might play throughout your time; and a vocal one you can sing with.

However you listen to your music on your phone/tablet. I suggest you find a way to put the playlist on your phone/tablet, so you can personalize it the way you want, and have it off-line.

Don't overlook YouTube! It has several hours of music compilations from various worship groups. If you set up an account you can create a playlist for your devotional time.

#### WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED:

One of the most valuable tools for developing and maintaining connection with God is your phone/tablet!

You can listen in your car – either on your device or on the radio. If you have satellite radio, there is Enlighten (65) which is Southern Gospel; The Message (63); Kirk Franklin (64).

FM radio: WAFJ 88.3; 88.7; 89.5 (Air1); 91.7; 92.7; 102.3 (K-love); 105.3 Some of these have segments of preaching/teaching.

Group Text