

THE DAILY DISCIPLE

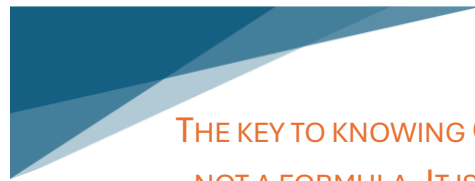
A YEARLONG NEW TESTAMENT READING ADVENTURE

The Trails. They began at the edge of my childhood stomping grounds. We don't know where they came from, but every summer these trails were ridden daily by the kids of the neighborhood on our bicycles. We had landmarks like "The Island," "The Swamp," "The Car" (seriously there was an old, beat-up rusted car in the middle of the woods for no reason), and "The Snake." We had an absolute blast riding for hours on end several days a week. It has been decades since I've last set foot in those woods, so I don't know the status of their existence after all these years. One thing I do know, the memories of those adventures still bring a smile to this day not just with me but my friends.

The funny thing about those adventures from childhood are they were never really thought out nor planned, they just happened. In many ways, that is how we approach reading the Bible – it happens, we don't necessarily plan it out. We have memories from those encounters, but they get fuzzy over time if we are honest with ourselves.

But what if we approached our time with God with a plan and focus to HEAR from Him on a consistent basis? What if we made a commitment to ride this "trail" today and that "trail" tomorrow with a focus to HEAR from the God of the universe? What would the adventure be that He takes us on, and a year from now when we look back, what will our memories be of our time with our Lord?

I'm excited to go on this journey with you. I look forward to hearing what God does along the way and to look back a year from now at where He's taken us.



THE KEY TO KNOWING GOD'S VOICE IS
NOT A FORMULA. IT IS NOT A METHOD
YOU CAN FOLLOW. KNOWING GOD'S
VOICE COMES FROM AN INTIMATE LOVE
RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.

Henry T Blackaby & Claude V King, *Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God*, pg. 37



On the following pages, you will find a Bible study method that has benefited me greatly and that I encourage others to learn and use. While it is not the only method, it is the one I use and recommend. The point is not what method we use, but that we approach our personal Bible study with our heart set to hear from God.

One last word of encouragement: think of the start of each book as a mark of progress in your journey with God. When we reach each marker, or new book, I will make available, via text and on the web, a book summary and recommended books/commentaries to help us all better understand the next leg of our journey.

Looking forward to the adventure that awaits us!

Blessings,



Bro. Mark

**You are free to purchase or use your own journal for this journey. The blank journal pages are provided as another option.*

IF YOU ARE GOING TO BE A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST, YOU *MUST* HAVE A DAILY QUIET TIME WITH GOD. IT IS ABSOLUTELY IRREPLACEABLE FOR YOUR SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT. YOU MUST MAKE IT A PRIORITY IN YOUR LIFE, SETTING ASIDE TIME IN YOUR DAILY SCHEDULE FOR GOD TO SPEAK TO YOU.

Robby Gallaty, *Growing Up: How to be A Disciple Who Makes Disciples*, pg. 145



HOW TO COMPLETE A HEAR JOURNAL

ADAPTED FROM REPLICATE MINISTRIES

The acronym **HEAR** in **HEAR** Journal stands for **H**ighlight, **E**xplain, **A**pply, and **R**espond. Each of these four aspects contributes to creating an atmosphere to hear God speak. After settling on a reading plan and establishing a time for reading and studying God’s Word, you will be ready to H.E.A.R. from God.

For an illustration, let’s assume that you begin your daily time in the book of 2 Timothy, and today’s reading is the first chapter of the book. **Before** reading the text, pause to sincerely ask God to speak to you. It may seem trite, but it is

absolutely imperative that we seek God’s guidance in order to understand His Word (1 Corinthians 2:12-14). Every time we open our Bibles, we should pray the simple prayer that David prayed: “Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law (Word)” (Psalm 119:18).



IN THE DEEPEST DEPTHS OF OUR SOUL
WE ARE LONGING TO KNOW GOD MORE
INTIMATELY, BUT WE DON’T KNOW HOW.

David Wardell & Jeff Leever, *Daily Disciples: Growing Everyday as a Follower of Christ*, pg. 30

After praying for the Holy Spirit’s guidance, open your **journaling notebook or blank H.E.A.R. page**, and at the top left-hand corner, write the letter **H**. This exercise will remind you to read with a purpose. In the course of your reading, one or two verses will usually stand out and speak to you. After reading the passage of Scripture, **Highlight** each verse that speaks to you by copying it under the letter “**H**”. Write out the following:

- The name of the book
- The passage of Scripture
- The chapter and verse numbers that especially speak to you
- A title to describe the passage

This practice will make it easier to find the passage when you want to revisit it in the future in your Journal.

After you have highlighted the passage in your Journal, write the letter “**E**” under the previous entry. At this stage, you will **EXPLAIN** what the text means. By asking some simple questions, with the help of God’s Spirit, you can understand the meaning of a passage or verse. The next section will teach you in detail how to understand the meaning of a passage. Until then, here are a few questions to get you started:

- Why was this written?
- To whom was it originally written?
- How does it fit with the verses before and after it?
- Why did the Holy Spirit include this passage in the book?
- What is He intending to communicate through this text?



At this point, you are beginning the process of discovering the specific and personal word that God has for you from His Word. What is important is that you are engaging the text and wrestling with its meaning. After writing a short summary of what you think the text means, in your Journal, write the letter “**A**” below the letter “**E**”. Under the “**A**”, write the word **APPLY**. This application is the heart of the process. Everything you have done so far culminates under this heading. As you have done before, answer a series of questions to uncover the significance of these verses to you personally, questions like:

- How can this help me?
- What does this mean today?
- What would the application of this verse look like in my life?
- What does this mean to me?
- What is God saying to me?

As you complete your journal, these questions bridge the gap between the ancient world and your world today. They provide a way for God to speak to you from the specific passage or verse. Answer these questions under the “**A**”. Challenge yourself to write between two and five sentences about how the text applies to your life.

Finally, below the first three entries in your journal, write the letter “**R**” for **RESPOND**. This is the last part of the **HEAR** Journal. Your response to the passage may take on many forms. You may write a call to action. You may describe how you will be different because of what God has said to you through His Word. You may indicate what you are going to do because of what you have learned. You may respond by writing out a prayer to God. For example, you may ask God to help you to be more loving, or to give you a desire to be more generous in your giving. Keep in mind that this is your response to what you have just read.

Notice that all of the words in the **HEAR** Journal formula are action words: *Highlight, Explain, Apply, and Respond*. God does not want us to sit back and wait for Him to drop some truth into our laps. Jesus said,

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

~Matthew 7:7~



Instead of waiting passively, God desires that we actively pursue Him.

Robby Gallaty, *Replicate: How to Create a Culture of Disciple-Making Right Where You Are*, pg. 77



Think of the miracle of the Bible. Over centuries of time, God supernaturally moved upon a number of men in an unusual way that resulted in them writing the exact words of God. God led His people to recognize these divine writings and to distinguish them from everything else that has ever been written. Then God's people brought these sixty-six books together. The preservation and survival of the Bible are as miraculous as its writing. Then God gave men, beginning with Gutenberg's printing press, technological knowledge to copy and transmit the Bible so that all people could have it. All because God has something to say to you.



When God speaks to us, He does so in a way that opens up
to us His plan for our lives.

*A.W. Tozer, A Cloud By Day, A Fire By Night: Finding and Following God's Will
for You, pg. 15*



SUMMARIZING THE H.E.A.R. JOURNALING METHOD

H_{ighlight}

- After reading the passage of Scripture, highlight each verse that speaks to you by copying it under the letter “H”. Write out the following:
 - The name of the book
 - The passage of Scripture
 - The chapter and verse numbers that especially speak to you
 - A title to describe the passage

E_{xplain}

- By asking some simple questions, with the help of God’s Spirit, you can understand the meaning of a passage or verse.
 - Why was this written?
 - To whom was it originally written?
 - How does it fit with the verses before and after it?
 - Why did the Holy Spirit include this passage in the book?
 - What is the Holy Spirit intending to communicate through this text?

A_{pply}

- After writing a short summary of what you think the text means, write the letter “A” below the letter “E”.
 - How can this help me?
 - What does this mean today?
 - What would the application of this verse look like in my life?
 - What does this mean to me?
 - What is God saying to me?

R_{espond}

- Your response to the passage may take on many forms. You may write a call to action. You may describe how you will be different because of what God has said to you through His Word. You may indicate what you are going to do because of what you have learned. You may respond by writing out a prayer to God. For example, you may ask God to help you to be more loving, or to give you a desire to be more generous in your giving. Keep in mind that this is your response to what you have just read.
 - In what ways is this passage calling me to action?
 - How will I be different because of what I’ve learned?
 - Write out a prayer to God in response to what I read today.



SAMPLE HEAR ENTRY

SAMPLE HEAR JOURNAL

Read: Philippians 4:10-13 **Date:** 03-3-2024

H

Highlight: “I am able to do all things through Him who strengthens me” – Phil 4:13

E

Explain: Paul was telling the church at Philippi that he had discovered the secret of contentment. No matter the situation in Paul’s life, he realized that Christ was all he needed, and Christ was the one who strengthened him to persevere through difficult times.

A

Apply: In my life I will experience many ups and down. My contentment is not found in circumstances. Rather, it is based on my relationship with Jesus Christ. Only Jesus gives me the strength I need to be content in every circumstance of life.

R

Respond: Lord Jesus, please help me as I strive to be content in You. Through Your strength I can make it through any situation I must face.



May the Lord find in my heart a highway made ready by His grace so that He may make a triumphal progress through the utmost borders of my soul, from the beginning of this year even to the end of it.

Charles H. Spurgeon, *Evening by Evening: Daily Devotional Readings*, pg. 3



Reading Through The New Testament In A Year

Week 1

- Matthew 1
- Matthew 2
- Matthew 3
- Matthew 4
- Matthew 5

Week 7

- Mark 3
- Mark 4
- Mark 5
- Mark 6
- Mark 7

Week 13

- Luke 17
- Luke 18
- Luke 19
- Luke 20
- Luke 21

Week 2

- Matthew 6
- Matthew 7
- Matthew 8
- Matthew 9
- Matthew 10

Week 8

- Mark 8
- Mark 9
- Mark 10
- Mark 11
- Mark 12

Week 14

- Luke 22
- Luke 23
- Luke 24
- John 1
- John 2

Week 3

- Matthew 11
- Matthew 12
- Matthew 13
- Matthew 14
- Matthew 15

Week 9

- Mark 13
- Mark 14
- Mark 15
- Mark 16
- Luke 1

Week 15

- John 3
- John 4
- John 5
- John 6
- John 7

Week 4

- Matthew 16
- Matthew 17
- Matthew 18
- Matthew 19
- Matthew 20

Week 10

- Luke 2
- Luke 3
- Luke 4
- Luke 5
- Luke 6

Week 16

- John 8
- John 9
- John 10
- John 11
- John 12

Week 5

- Matthew 21
- Matthew 22
- Matthew 23
- Matthew 24
- Matthew 25

Week 11

- Luke 7
- Luke 8
- Luke 9
- Luke 10
- Luke 11

Week 17

- John 13
- John 14
- John 15
- John 16
- John 17

Week 6

- Matthew 26
- Matthew 27
- Matthew 28
- Mark 1
- Mark 2

Week 12

- Luke 12
- Luke 13
- Luke 14
- Luke 15
- Luke 16

Week 18

- John 18
- John 19
- John 20
- John 21
- Acts 1



Week 19

- Acts 2
- Acts 3
- Acts 4
- Acts 5
- Acts 6

Week 20

- Acts 7
- Acts 8
- Acts 9
- Acts 10
- Acts 11

Week 21

- Acts 12
- Acts 13
- Acts 14
- Acts 15
- Acts 16

Week 22

- Acts 17
- Acts 18
- Acts 19
- Acts 20
- Acts 21

Week 23

- Acts 22
- Acts 23
- Acts 24
- Acts 25
- Acts 26

Week 24

- Acts 27
- Acts 28
- Romans 1
- Romans 2
- Romans 3

Week 25

- Romans 4
- Romans 5
- Romans 6
- Romans 7
- Romans 8

Week 26

- Romans 9
- Romans 10
- Romans 11
- Romans 12
- Romans 13

Week 27

- Romans 14
- Romans 15
- Romans 16
- 1 Corinthians 1
- 1 Corinthians 2

Week 28

- 1 Corinthians 3
- 1 Corinthians 4
- 1 Corinthians 5
- 1 Corinthians 6
- 1 Corinthians 7

Week 29

- 1 Corinthians 8
- 1 Corinthians 9
- 1 Corinthians 10
- 1 Corinthians 11
- 1 Corinthians 12

Week 30

- 1 Corinthians 13
- 1 Corinthians 14
- 1 Corinthians 15
- 1 Corinthians 16
- 2 Corinthians 1

Week 31

- 2 Corinthians 2
- 2 Corinthians 3
- 2 Corinthians 4
- 2 Corinthians 5
- 2 Corinthians 6

Week 32

- 2 Corinthians 7
- 2 Corinthians 8
- 2 Corinthians 9
- 2 Corinthians 10
- 2 Corinthians 11

Week 33

- 2 Corinthians 12
- 2 Corinthians 13
- Galatians 1
- Galatians 2
- Galatians 3

Week 34

- Galatians 4
- Galatians 5
- Galatians 6
- Ephesians 1
- Ephesians 2

Week 35

- Ephesians 3
- Ephesians 4
- Ephesians 5
- Ephesians 6
- Philippians 1

Week 36

- Philippians 2
- Philippians 3
- Philippians 4
- Colossians 1
- Colossians 2



Week 37

- Colossians 3
- Colossians 4
- 1 Thessalonians 1
- 1 Thessalonians 2
- 1 Thessalonians 3

Week 38

- 1 Thessalonians 4
- 1 Thessalonians 5
- 2 Thessalonians 1
- 2 Thessalonians 2
- 2 Thessalonians 3

Week 39

- 1 Timothy 1
- 1 Timothy 2
- 1 Timothy 3
- 1 Timothy 4
- 1 Timothy 5

Week 40

- 1 Timothy 6
- 2 Timothy 1
- 2 Timothy 2
- 2 Timothy 3
- 2 Timothy 4

Week 41

- Titus 1
- Titus 2
- Titus 3
- Philemon
- Hebrews 1

Week 42

- Hebrews 2
- Hebrews 3
- Hebrews 4
- Hebrews 5
- Hebrews 6

Week 43

- Hebrews 7
- Hebrews 8
- Hebrews 9
- Hebrews 10
- Hebrews 11

Week 44

- Hebrews 12
- Hebrews 13
- James 1
- James 2
- James 3

Week 45

- James 4
- James 5
- 1 Peter 1
- 1 Peter 2
- 1 Peter 3

Week 46

- 1 Peter 4
- 1 Peter 5
- 2 Peter 1
- 2 Peter 2
- 2 Peter 3

Week 47

- 1 John 1
- 1 John 2
- 1 John 3
- 1 John 4
- 1 John 5

Week 48

- 2 John
- 3 John
- Jude
- Revelation 1
- Revelation 2

Week 49

- Revelation 3
- Revelation 4
- Revelation 5
- Revelation 6
- Revelation 7

Week 50

- Revelation 8
- Revelation 9
- Revelation 10
- Revelation 11
- Revelation 12

Week 51

- Revelation 13
- Revelation 14
- Revelation 15
- Revelation 16
- Revelation 17

Week 52

- Revelation 18
- Revelation 19
- Revelation 20
- Revelation 21
- Revelation 22

