



OUTSIDE READING ASSIGNMENT

PLANNED APPOINTMENTS WITH GOD

Used by Permission

Week One

1

Date _____

What will you do during your first appointment with God? After getting out of bed and taking care of your personal needs, you will want to find a quiet place and there, with your Bible, spend five to ten minutes in solitude with God.

1. Invest the first few seconds preparing your heart as you look forward to the new day by committing it to the Lord in prayer. You may not be in a good mood, but emotions are subject to your will, and they can be changed if you really want them changed. Ask God to change your mood if need be. Ask Him to give you an expectant and alert mind toward this new adventure of developing a relationship with Jesus Christ.
2. The purpose of this time is to fix firmly in your mind the objective for the week—becoming acquainted with Jesus Christ. Look over your appointment calendar. You will be exploring a portion of God’s Word daily. Note that you will only cover a small portion of Scripture. You will find that there are deep spiritual truths in each portion.
3. A good place to begin getting acquainted with Jesus is the Gospel of John. Now take several minutes to look over Chapter 1. Read it through, taking time to think about what you have read.
4. Ask God to give you the proper heart attitude to know Him and His truth, that you will be diligent in digging for truth as it applies to you personally throughout the week.

You are now ready to continue tomorrow.

2

Date _____

Remember to take the first few minutes to make the transition from sleep and thoughts of yourself to spending time with God. Prepare your heart to seek God (Ezra 7:10). Commit the new day to Christ as you seek to become acquainted with Him throughout the day.

Now take several minutes to read the Bible. Your greatest need is to hear some word from God. Allow the Word to speak to you personally. Meet the Author! Begin reading in the Gospel of John. Read verses 1 through 13.

After God has spoken to you through His book, then speak to Him in prayer. Remember

ACTS:

Adoration

Confession

Thanksgiving

Supplication

What the Church needs today is not more machinery or better, not new organizations or more and novel methods, but men whom the Holy Ghost can use—men of prayer. The Holy Ghost does not flow through methods, but through men. He does not come on machinery, but on men. He does not anoint plans, but men—men of prayer.

—E.M. Bounds

3

Date _____

Prepare your heart in prayer.

Read John 1:14-18.

Pray using **ACTS:**

Adoration

Confession

Thanksgiving

Supplication

Perhaps you have already begun to make notes during your time with God. You might want to jot down any observations you make during your Bible reading, a specific prayer request you might have, or a question that comes to mind during any of your appointments.

Questions:

What does the *Word* refer to?

What is the function of light?

How does one enter God's family?

4

Date _____

Prepare your heart in prayer.

Read John 1:19-28.

Pray using **ACTS**:

Adoration

Confession

Thanksgiving

Supplication

To help you zero in on what God is saying to you personally during your Bible reading, you might ask yourself some or all of the following questions which George Muller, a great man of faith, used in developing his relationship with Christ.

Questions:

Is there any **example** for me to follow?

Is there any **command** for me to obey?

Is there any **error** for me to avoid?

Is there any **sin** for me to forsake?

Is there any **promise** for me to claim?

Is there any new **thought** about God Himself? _____

5

Date _____

Prepare your heart in prayer.

Read John 1:29-42.

Pray using **ACTS**:

Adoration

Confession

Thanksgiving

Supplication

Did George Muller's questions help? Record the answers to any or all in the space provided.

Questions:

Is there any **example** for me to follow?

Is there any **command** for me to obey?

Is there any **error** for me to avoid?

Is there any **sin** for me to forsake?

Is there any **promise** for me to claim?

Is there any new **thought** about God Himself? _____

6

Date _____

Prepare your heart in prayer.

Read John 1:43-51.

Pray using **ACTS**:

Adoration

Confession

Thanksgiving

Supplication

You might want to make your own prayer list for a reminder. Record your requests and answers and see how God works.

Questions:

Is there any **example** for me to follow?

Is there any **command** for me to obey?

Is there any **error** for me to avoid?

Is there any **sin** for me to forsake?

Is there any **promise** for me to claim?

Is there any new **thought** about God Himself? _____

7

Date _____

How was your first week of spending time with God? Were you able to relate the remainder of the day to your appointed time with God? Remember this appointment is not a law, but a method to help you become acquainted with Jesus Christ. If you happen to have missed an appointment one day, that day should not have been a failure. But you don't want breaking appointments with God to become a habit!

Review John 1. Did you learn anything about Jesus Christ? Do you feel you are becoming acquainted with Him? Why?

Invest some time praying through those things that stood out to you during the week. Is there any action you should take based on the new truths you have discovered about Jesus Christ?

Are you praying specifically? Has God answered you yet? Do you feel He has spoken to you?

Hitherto you have asked nothing in my name; ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be complete.
John 16:24