

AUTHORITY

“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching the truth, rebuking error, correcting faults, and giving instruction for right living, so that the person who serves God may be fully qualified and equipped to do every kind of good deed.”

—2 Timothy 3:16-17, TEV

1 The Biblical Word

OUR HUMAN CONDITION

Inside me is this persistent longing to reach out to Someone; this desire to know if God has anything to do with me, to say to me; this need to know if the Bible has any power to offer me.

ASSIGNMENT

The goal of DISCIPLE is to develop disciples of Jesus Christ who know and love God's Word. Throughout the DISCIPLE study, you will be reading Scripture. We urge you to follow the daily pattern of reading and study. As you read Scripture, make notes in the appropriate space on the adjoining page. Daily assignments will indicate when to read and respond to “The Bible Teaching” and “Marks of Discipleship” sections in the study manual. Usually you will read the study manual on Day 6, after you have read all the week's Scripture.

- Day 1 Hold the Bible in your hands, remembering that it is many books by many writers who were inspired by God. Study the listing of the books of the Bible to get a feel for the titles. Look through the entire Bible, paying attention to the content headings. Locate study aids in your Bible: preface and introductions, notes at the foot of the page, maps, charts, and supplementary articles. Read portions that interest you.
- Day 2 Sample different styles of biblical literature. Do not try to understand the message yet. Just enjoy the variety in style and

begin learning how to read different material. Today, read poetry aloud. Read Psalm 84; Hosea 11; Exodus 15:1-18.

- Day 3 History. Read 1 Kings 19; 1 Chronicles 22; Acts 9. Read rapidly; try some different Bible translations if available.
- Day 4 Law. Exodus 20 (Ten Commandments); Deuteronomy 5-6 (6:4-9 is called the *Shema*, which means “Hear”). Prophets. Micah 4.
- Day 5 Letters. Philemon (a letter from Paul). Gospels. Luke 15 (a parable of Jesus).
- Day 6 Read and respond to “The Bible Teaching” and “Marks of Discipleship.”
- Day 7 Rest and prayer.

PRAYER

Pray daily before study:

“Treat me according to your constant love, and teach me your commands.

I am your servant; give me understanding, so that I may know your teachings” (Psalm 119:124-125, TEV).

Prayer concerns for this week:

where we are Disciple:
vs. Marks of Disciple:
who we want to
become