

SHE PROVES *faithful*

BETTER BIBLE READING

Ponder Bible Reading Method

“But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.” Luke 2:19

After Mary gave birth to Jesus, the promised Messiah, a group of astonished shepherds arrived, testifying to the miraculous sight and message they just beheld during their night shift. Here they stood, directed by angels, to come see the Savior of the world. When Mary heard the shepherds’ testimonies, she treasured these facts, pondering them in her heart.

The Greek word for ponder means “to bring together in one’s mind.” Amid all the incredible, astonishing, promise-unfolding events, Mary paused and thought about it all, probably connecting Scriptures, God’s calling of her to bear His Son, the testimonies of the shepherds, and the unfolding of God’s glorious plan to rescue His people. Scripture then says she treasured up these things. Mary kept the truth and glory she witnessed and heard in her mind as to not lose them or be forgetful of God.

As you look at Mary’s example of how she pondered and treasured up the acts and promises of God, you too can incorporate these delightful disciplines in your Bible reading to help you engage more deeply with the Word of God. With the Ponder Method you can read a portion of Scripture, and make observations and connections as you think through the passage, and then treasure the truths by applying them to your day.

This method is one way to encourage you to be a woman who keeps God’s Word in your heart and on your mind so the truth is preserved and acted upon and not forgotten. Truth preserved is a light to your path, directing you in the way you should go, and a balm to your soul as you continue to follow the Lord in the midst of a fallen and broken world and living in the flesh that still is being mortified. All you need is your Bible, a passage of Scripture to read, a dictionary, and your favorite note taking supplies.

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To use the Ponder Bible Reading Method, read your selected passage, and then follow the Ponder Method to dive deeper into the Word. Pray and ask the Lord give you a soft heart to learn from Him.



OBSERVE



DEFINE



PONDER

OBSERVE

Write down several observations about the passage. Who is writing this and what is the main message or topic of this passage? What does the passage say about God? What does it say about man? What you can you learn from what you read?

DEFINE

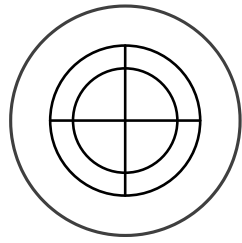
Select 2-3 words to define in the passage. Write down the definitions of the words using a dictionary or a lexicon dictionary that will give you the meaning of the word from the original language. Or write down a definition in your own words based on what the selected word means in context of the verse or passage.

PONDER

Stop and think through your observations and definitions. What connections can you make? What is a truth that stands out from your observations? How does it apply to your life? Write it down and spend a few minutes praying about the application of the truth to your life.

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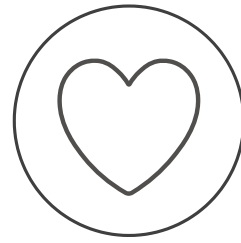
Ponder Bible Reading Method



OBSERVE



DEFINE



PONDER

Passage:

OBSERVE

DEFINE

PONDER