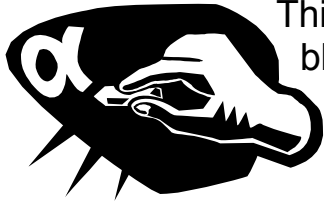


Reflective Reading



This is where it all begins. See your heart as a blank slate, ready for the Spirit of God to write upon.

1

Sit quietly before the Lord with your Bible open to the passage. Ask the Holy Spirit to speak to your heart. Take a few deep breaths and acknowledge that God is here and wants to speak to you. Thank Him in advance with a sense of expectancy about what He will reveal.

2

Read the entire passage slowly without pausing to process what it means. Simply read it for the beauty of the words. It is often more meaningful if you read it aloud.

3

Stop and acknowledge your need for God's Spirit to speak once again. Say something like: "Spirit of the Living God, you are within me. Come and show me my heavenly Father's heart from this passage today.

4

Now read it again, preparing to pause as the Spirit leads. You may feel a gentle nudge at a single word or be captivated by a phrase, but the key is when you sense this, stop and go no further. Take the word or phrase or even verse that has arrested you, and say it over and over in your mind, seeing it soak down into your heart.

5

Now ask the Holy Spirit a very simple question: Lord, what do you want to say to me about this? Wait upon Him, and when He speaks, write it down in your notebook. This is it! However, if you have time and want to go on, repeat steps 3-5 as you begin reading where you left off.