

Dwelling in/with the Word

1. **Readiness**—Prepare yourself to hear the Word of God. Relax. Breathe in and out, and be filled by God's Spirit. Enter into a time of holy expectation where God might speak. Release any anxiety and tension you might be carrying and give yourself to God in this time.
2. **Read**—Read the passage slowly and out loud to yourself. Let the words speak to you. Don't rush or hurry. Allow the Holy Spirit to prompt you to reflect on a certain word or phrase that God wants to speak to you. What catches your attention? Think about this for a minute or two.
3. **Reflect**—Read the passage out loud again. Focus in on that word or phrase that God keeps putting in your mind as you read. Chew your cud. Ponder anew the word or phrase and allow it to sink deep into your life. After your second read through sit and reflect for another minute or two.
4. **Reveal through Prayer**—Enter into a time of prayer asking God to reveal to you what God is saying through the passage. Listen to God with openness and expectation. What is comforting you? What is confronting you? What are you resisting? What is challenging you and calling you to action?
5. **Respond**—The purpose of Dwelling in/with the Word is for God's Word to lead to transformation. What needs transformed in your life because of what you read and heard from God? How is God calling you to respond? Worship? Thanksgiving? Reaching out to someone? A tangible action? How is God calling you to be a doer of the Word? Give thanks for this time with God and for the gift of God's Word that reveals truth, faith, hope and love to you for your life. Let God's Word linger and dwell with you throughout your day.

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Possible passages for further Dwelling in/with the Word for your personal life.

Genesis 1-3 (in small chunks)
Exodus 3:1-6; 20:1-21; 34:6-7
Deuteronomy 6:4-9; 8; 30
Psalm 1; 19; 23; 27; 34.1-10; 42; 46; 65; 95; 103; 119 (in 8 verse chunks); 121; 139
Proverbs 1:20-33; 3:5-8; 8
Isaiah 6:1-8; 40:1-5; 40:28-31; 43:1-2; 52:13-53:12; 55
Jeremiah 31:31-34
Micah 6:6-8
Matthew 5-7 (in small chunks); 11:28-30; 13 (parable by parable); 14:22-33; 28:18-20
Mark 8:31-38
Luke 1:46-55; 4:16-30; 9:57-62; 10:29-37; 15; 24:1-12, 13-35, 36-53
John 1:1-18, 35-51; 3:1-21; 10:1-18; 13:1-11; 14-17 (in small chunks); 20:19-31; 21:15-19
Romans 3:21-26; 5:1-8; 8; 12:1-2, 9-21
1 Corinthians 1:18-25; 3; 13
2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Galatians 2:19-20; 5:22-26
Ephesians 2; 3:16-19; 4:1-16
Philippians 2:1-11; 3:7-21; 4:4-9
Colossians 1:15-23; 3:12-15
1 Thessalonians 1:2-10; 2:1-13
Hebrews 4:12-13; 10:23-25; 11:1-3; 12:1-3, 14-15
James 1:2-8, 12-18, 19-27; 2:14-26
1 Peter 1:3-9; 2:9-10; 3:13-18
1 John 1:5-10; 3:18-24; 4:7-21; 5:1-5
Revelation 2-3 (through each church letter); 5:1-10; 7:13-17; 21-22 (in small chunks)

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