

A Few of Trey's Bible Notes:

Why you need to read the Bible - A Catholic view

1. Because it is God's inspired word
2. Because the Bible is true and essential for today as always
3. Because Jesus said:
Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. Matthew 4:4
4. Because it shows the way you can have a personal relationship with God
5. Because it challenges us to spread the Good News of Salvation

WHAT THE BIBLE GIVES US

The way to forgiveness

God's plan for salvation

How to overcome temptation

Purity

Direction for life

Prayer before reading the Bible

It is important to pray before reading the Bible so that we have the right attitude to reading God's Word. A suggested prayer is:

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Holy Word which tells me of your great love and your great Salvation for me in Jesus, your Son. Lord Jesus, thank you for giving me eternal life. Holy Spirit, come and reveal more of Jesus to me day by day; come now and enlighten me as I read these Sacred Scriptures. Amen.

How to Read the Bible...

- 1) The theological method.
- (2) The textual method.

PRINCIPLES.

1. Be careful to work on a correct text.
2. Endeavor to understand the exact meaning of the words and phrases studied.
3. Read every passage in the light of its context.
4. Note the distinctive character and purpose of each book of Scripture.
5. Make a separate study of the works of each Scripture writer, and in reading any passage consider it especially with regard to the rest of the writings of its author.
6. Study each part of the Bible in connection with the period when it was written, and take into account the circumstances of its origin.
7. Trace the historical development of revelation.
8. Study the Bible in sympathy with the spirit in which it is written.
The conclusion may be stated in two ways for its two aspects:
 - 1) The critical study of the Bible in no degree supersedes the devout study, but even requires spirituality in order to reach its own ends.
 - 2) The devout study of the Bible by no means precludes the critical, but, after helping to make this the more keen and penetrating, profits by the rich results of research.
9. Use common intelligence in the reading of Scripture.
10. A sober intelligence may apply the ancient lessons of revelation to the circumstances and needs of to-day.