

Address: 160 Paya Lebar Road, Orion@Paya Lebar #04-06, Singapore 409022
Sun Worship Service: 10am, Sun School: 11.45am, Wed Prayer Meeting: 8pm
Website: www.sovereignhopebpc.org
Rev Dr Jack Sin: 91160948 (hp) / jacksin710@gmail.com
Elder Loke Tat Luen: tiloke822@gmail.com

Helpful Pointers on Effectual Reading of the Word of God or Books

Francis Bacon said, “*Reading maketh a full man; writing, an exact man.*”



We are encouraged by the Apostle Paul to read the Word of God daily and know sound doctrine (1Tim 4:13-16) and to read, relish and cherish good Christian books too in trying times. During our special service on 19 Feb, a sister in Christ from another church attended and bought our church published pandemic book and 3 other books from FV Resource as she is an avid reader.

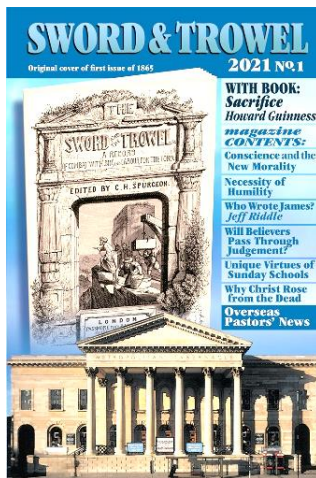
Consider the following tips on how to read a book more effectively:

1. **Consider the place, pace and time of the day that suits you best** (i.e. one book a month or more in the morning or night time). Is it early morning or lunch time, or late at night and where is the best location in the house where you are undisturbed and for how long and which book? Give your best moments to a learning process
2. **Pray first for a clear mind and read and think carefully.** Let the bible or the good Christian books give you the food for thought. Assess critically what you read and analyse the authorial intent and the content and context of it. Think and muse it over in your spare moments. Is it true and relevant or is there something to avoid? An anecdote to remember or a sin to avoid or a verse to memorise. Write your thoughts, if any, in a book when you learn a new phrase, fact or word and use it the next time you can (i.e. how one may improve his vocabulary and bible knowledge).
3. **Read and talk about it to others.** Read aloud and read again if needed and share with others the impressions that you have about the book ie on worship or evangelism or holiness, talk about it to your family or friends what you learn) and make recommendations In

short notes or verbally on books to others. Let them share with you their thoughts as well and ask questions. This will greatly enrich edifying spiritual conversation and it is one of the best ways to test and share your knowledge.

4. **Read and reread and write about it and be challenged.** Let a good Christian biography like Jonathan Edwards, William Carey, Adoniram Judson or David Brainerd fire you up and write a review or summary of it and give credit to the author when credit is due. Let a sound doctrinal book (i.e. on Christology or Soteriology or the second coming of Christ) lead you to understand God better (i.e. William Guthrie, *The Christian's Great Interest*). **Let a devotional book stir up self-examination and a greater consecration and service to Christ and repentance or reflection or prayerful action.**

5. **Read systematically and widely.** Do not read only one genre of book (e.g. fiction or science only) so that your knowledge is not lopsided. Read a full range of vital topics in theology, church history, Old Testament or New Testament books on eschatology, Christian education, apologetics, Christian ethics, prayer, worship, economics, world events, youth issues or family matters, marriage etc. Read the local newspapers and *Newsweek* or *Time Magazine* if possible and the overseas journals like *Evangelical Times* or the *Sword and Trowel* or the *Ordained Servant* magazine and the puritans etc.



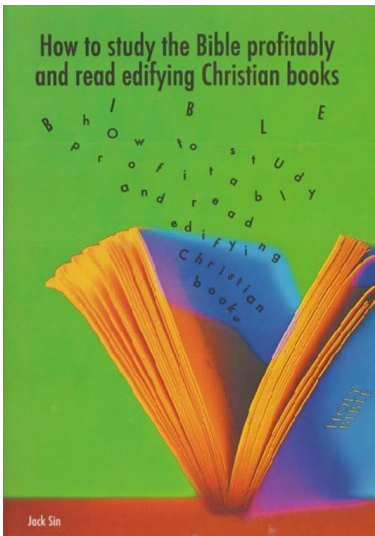
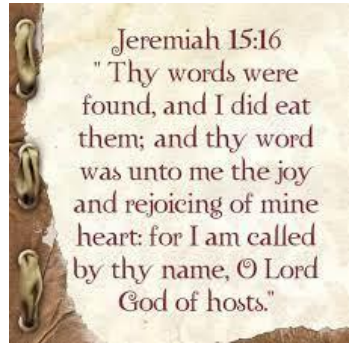
6. **Read always with a pen or pencil to underline, make remarks or write down key points and lessons learnt.** Short notes are better than long memories. Always have a book 'on the go' when you are taking a bus or an MRT ride or while waiting. However little time you may have to spare in any week, try to read even if it is only a few pages. Once formed, the good reading habit will stay with you with constant discipline and practice (1 Timothy 4:13) and watch yourself grow and glow in the knowledge of God and of the truth and life.

7. **Your first priority throughout life is to glorify God and to enjoy him forever and to read, study, masticate, meditate and apply God's Word helps to fulfil that purpose or aim** in life. (Josh1:8 and Jer 15:16)

Other books which we are reading must never replace Bible reading time. Only the Word of God which is our rule of

faith and is the infallible and authoritative, book of life and all other books are helpful and good to the extent that they promote Bible understanding and sound application and the use of true knowledge and not against it (2 Timothy 2:15). Do not let yourself be caught up with Netflix movies or social media or online games, make a conscious effort to get and to read a good Christian book that is beneficial for your soul and for that of others when you share it even in a pandemic. **Redeem your limited time and use it wisely**

Keep growing and glowing in the fear and knowledge of God and remember, Readers can be effective Leaders for the Lord one day.



Jack Sin

(Adapted and edited from Jack Sin, How to Study the Bible and read edifying Christian books ,2013, 26-30)

Church Prayer Meeting (Wed 16 Feb 2022)
“When A Believer Falls Sick”
James 5: 13 - 18

Pastor Jack welcomed the 13 attendees (members & regular friends and 5 overseas brethren, namely, Pastor Babu from NCBPCI, Preacher Mok @ New Life BPC, London & from Myanmar Elder Habakkuk @ Gilead Balm Home & sisters Lapuii from Mercy Church & Hnin.

We opened the Prayer Meeting with the hymn, “Blessed Quietness”. This hymn is of the faith, joy and comfort we have in God. Thereafter, Pastor Jack led us in opening prayer. We then took turns to read God’s Word from James 5: 13 - 18 before Pastor Jack expounded on it.

3 Principles to consider when a Christian falls ill:

1) Ask for church intercession & medical intervention (v13-14)

- The Bible supports medical intervention for the sick. God has blessed us with a field of medicine for the sick to avail ourselves to medical treatment when there arises such a need.
- It is a biblical duty for the sick to inform the church leaders of the predicament / sickness (be it mental, physical or spiritual in nature) & ask for the church leaders to come & pray over the sick and to help in practical ways and the anointing of oil is a therapeutic element with the consultation of the doctor if needed.
- It is to be done with all due respect for the privacy of the sick church member.
- Also, do not underestimate the power of corporate prayer and benefit of care and concern and or one’s act of visitation to encourage the sick.

2) Acknowledge our need for divine pardon / faith (v15 – 16)

- If a person falls ill, he/she should consider to confess his or her sins if any ask God for forgiveness to heal both the body & soul as the Lord wills.
- The sick should consider a self-reflection or examination to see if he / she had offended God (disinterested in God’s Word & work, wilfully sinning against God . . .), resulting in a need for divine pardon & grace.

- The church leaders are to have faith in God & be humble in prayer that God in His Sovereignty will hear their prayers and his will be done.

3) Aspire to develop the good character of a person who persist in fervent prayer (v17 – 18)

- Some charismatic leaders or even young believers at times have the audacity to pray to God and “command” God to do this or that. This is totally unsound and show a lack of understanding and respect for God’s name.
- We need to be careful and not to be presumptuous, especially those who are in the “healing ministry” and assume that God will heal as they like.
- Our prayer life is also related to your walk of faith.
- We need to strive to live a holy and righteous life and if possible, to seek out someone (a righteous man) who is close to God & ask him or her to pray for you effectively.
- Then what about praying for yourself?
- - Moses, Abraham & Elijah, among others are saved and righteous men in God’s eyes by the grace of God. The Elijah of today is a person who is totally consecrated to God by faith (eg: even willing to live or die for God). God did great things for him as a result of his prayer and faith including stopping the rain. But note that Elijah to was fearful of Jezebel and there are moments in your life when you can be weak the next day / time for we are feeble and weak in our faith and we need to rely on God all the time.

Conclusion

As believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, we are to seek God and to remember to number our days and apply our hearts unto wisdom (Psalm 90:12) as we walk intimately with God in order to experience God’s bountiful blessings for us, to wait and to trust & have faith in Him. It is also our prayer for anyone who is a non-believer, to come to seek and know Christ as his Saviour and repent of his or her sins and to trust in His Sovereign good will & perfect timing.

Amen.

Han Kin Kheng



16 - 18 JUNE THU - SAT
2022

CHURCH CAMP

Biblical Precepts for a
Vibrant Christian Walk

Camp Speaker: Rev Dr Jack Sin

All attendees must be fully vaccinated

DAY 1 8:30am - 4:00pm

Morning : Message
Afternoon : Workshop
Evening : Free and easy

DAY 2 8:30am - 6:00pm

Morning : Message
Afternoon : Outing to Pulau Ubin
Evening : Free and easy

DAY 3 8:30am - 1:00pm

Morning : Message

@ **CHANGI
COVE** 351 Cranwell Rd,
Singapore 509866

TWIN SHARING
\$260nett PER PERSON*

SINGLE ROOM
\$390nett PER PERSON*

We welcome
DAY TRIPPERS!

\$20nett PER PERSON for 3 days

* Stay-in Campers : Camp fees includes breakfast only.
All other meals on our own.

Register by **30 April 2022** with Dn Yue Kay @97450311 or Joseph Wee @90171772

Sat 19 Feb 2022

In accordance with the Vaccination-Differentiated Safe Management Measures (VDS) that is effective from 1Feb, our Sunday worship services are for vaccinated worshippers. The church has organized a monthly worship service with holy communion for our unvaccinated brethren on the 3rd Sat of the month at 4pm in church, limited to 5 worshippers according to the safety measures.



Sun 20 Feb 2022



Thank God for Rev Nathan who preached to us on "*Heavenly Precepts for Daily Living*" (Col 3:1-11)



Memory Verse

Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Announcements

1. Welcome to our Worship Service! For our visitors, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave.
2. Pastor speaks today on “**Christian Virtues to Put On**” (*Col 3:12-17*), the quarterly theme of “Christ-Centred Principles for the Local Church”, a study on the Epistle to the Colossians.
3. Pastor speaks next Sunday on “**Biblical Rules for Domestic Life**” (*Col 3:18-26*).
4. Sunday School classes continues after worship service:
 - WCF Shorter Catechism Class – Pastor Jack
 - Understanding Biblical Eschatology & related Topics – Joseph
 - Studies in Deuteronomy – Dn Kwong Leen
 - Burmese Bible Class - James
5. Chinese Fellowship meets on Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom with both local and overseas brethren. Included in the programme is a study on Church History in China on alternate Sundays. Join us for a time of profitable learning.
6. Do send your prayer items to Pastor and join us for Church Prayer Meeting on Wed at 8pm via Zoom. The prayer list is available in church.
7. In accordance with the Vaccination-Differentiated Safe Management Measures (VDS) that is effective from 1Feb, our Sunday worship services are for vaccinated worshippers. The measures do not apply to religious classes ie. Sun School and Bible Study classes and hence all are welcome to attend. The church can organize a **monthly worship service with holy communion for the unvaccinated on the 3rd Sat of the month at 4pm in church, limited to 5 worshipers** according to the safety measures. **Interested kindly inform Pastor by the second Sunday of the month.**
8. Monthly Neighbourhood Bible Class will next meet on **Fri 4 Mar 2022, 7.30pm in church** on the study of 2 Samuel. Come and join us!
9. Those who wish to bring a new friend to the worship service, kindly inform the safety officer Dn Yue Kay or Pastor at least a day in advance.
10. Do kindly observe the safety measures of the church and assist with the weekly cleaning of the premises.
11. Love gifts, Offering and Tithes to the Lord can be given in the following ways:
 - **Cheque** payable to **Sovereign Hope Bible Presbyterian Church** and mail to church address. (Kindly write the full name of the church as indicated.)
 - **Fund transfer** to Church **UOB** Account **392-308-825-1**
 - **PayNow** to Church UEN: **T19SS0116FSOV**
