

Quiet Time Suggestion

Sometimes what gets in the way of a regular quiet time with the Lord is a plan of what we're going to do in that time. We've all probably tried the "flip open the Bible and read whatever it opens to" approach, with varying degrees of success. I encourage you to consider beginning a scripture/prayer box as a way to regularly meditate on God's word and commit it to memory as well as a way to be reminded to pray for those in your life.

I've read how another woman likes to purchase a new Bible each year (wow!) in order to feel a fresh approach to God's word. I've certainly appreciated reading the Bible (at least the New Testament) in a variety of versions. "The Message" and "God's Word" are two paraphrases which help us approach the Bible with fresh eyes. The "Chronological Bible" also lends a new perspective.

This past year I picked up a "Daily Bible" at a rummage sale just before our two foster children joined the home. I had read through a daily Bible a couple of times previously and can't recall it having been a really positive experience. I mostly remember feeling pressured and "behind". Yet an inspiration came to me with the purchase of this Bible. I knew it would be very difficult to manage to keep up with the full readings, so I decided I would just read the New Testament, Psalms and Proverbs section of each day. And on very busy days, I would squeeze in just the Psalms and Proverbs. This has worked very well and proved to be quite manageable.

Now, are our quiet times actually quiet? No, we can't really have that expectation with a home full of active children, but it is very important for our children to see that this is a priority time in our day. And for us to acknowledge that our walk with God is the most significant aspect of our lives.