



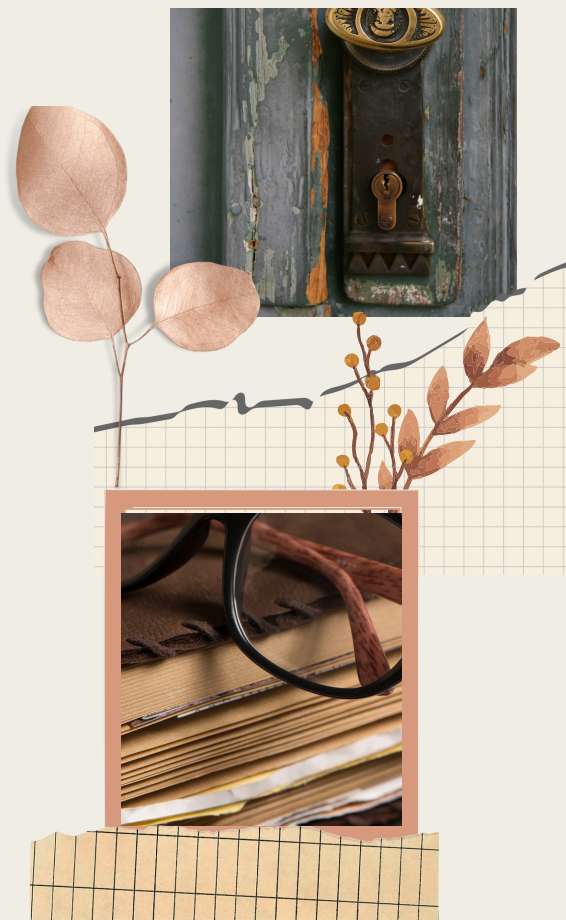
Around the Word

THE PRACTICE OF SACRED READING

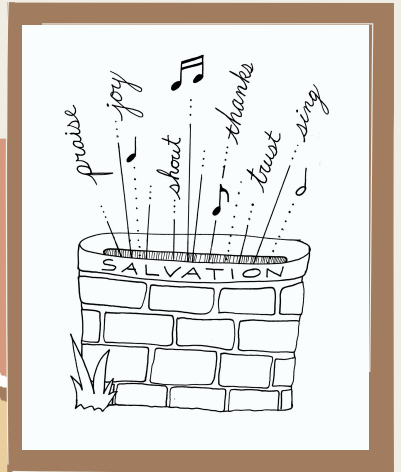
Around the Word

Around the Word is a tool that allows us to take steps, surrendering our own voice and listening instead to God through His Word. We're here to seek God's face, just as He tells us to.

In this practice, we are not adding to God's Word or expecting Him to say something He's not already said in His Word, but instead giving God our full attention (as much as we are able to do that) and setting aside the distractions that badger us all day long. Around the Word is an exercise in listening, with our mouths closed and our hearts open.



Around the Word Resources



| | |
|---|--------|
| Read Listen Read Silently Read Out Loud | Prayer |
| Write out Verse | |
| Write key words that speak to you from this passage | |

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What you need for the experience:

- * your favorite version of the Bible
- * printed copy of one of the worksheets provided OR your Bible journaling notebook
- * a copy of the graphic provided for each reading throughout the week
- * something to write with - try to keep it simple
- * a quiet space where you will not be disturbed or distracted (do your best)



Around the Word

Instructions for doing Around the Word in a small group

Listening to the Living Word of God - Christ Jesus in the Scriptures:

1. Listen as the passage is read twice. Listen for some segment that is especially meaningful to you.
2. **SILENCE:** 3-5 minutes. Silently meditate on a word or phrase that stands out.
3. Small Group: Briefly share (a word or phrase that has attracted you). A simple statement sharing with yourself (or others if in a group) a few words, or a theme, that stands out **No elaboration.**

How Christ the Word speaks to me:

1. Listen as the passage is read again (in a different version).
2. **SILENCE:** 5-7 minutes. Reflect on: Where does the content of this reading touch my life today?
3. Small Group: Share briefly: "I hear, I see..."

What Christ the Word invites me to DO:

1. Listen as the passage is read one more time.
2. **SILENCE:** 9-11 minutes. Reflect on : I believe that God wants me to ... today/this week/this year.
3. Small Group: Share aloud what you have learned and your responses.

Close with Prayer.

Around the Word

Instructions for doing Around the Word alone

Listening to the Living Word of God - Christ Jesus in the Scriptures:

1. Read the passage aloud twice. Listen for some segment that is especially meaningful to you.
2. **SILENCE:** 3-5 minutes. Silently meditate on a word or phrase that stands out.
3. Notice a word or phrase that has attracted you. A simple statement sharing with yourself, a few words, or a theme, that stands out. **No elaboration.**

How Christ the Word speaks to me:

1. Read the passage again (in a different version).
2. **SILENCE:** 5-7 minutes. Reflect on: Where does the content of this reading touch my life today?
3. Write down: "I hear, I see..."

What Christ the Word invites me to DO:

1. Read the passage (another version) one more time.
2. **SILENCE:** 9-11 minutes. Reflect on: I believe that God wants me to ... today/this week/this year.
3. Write down what you have learned and your responses.

Close with Prayer.

Around the Word

ESV First Reading Isaiah 12

The Lord Is My Strength and My Song

You will say in that day:

“I will give thanks to you, O Lord,
for though you were angry with me,
your anger turned away,
that you might comfort me.

“Behold, God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the Lord God is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation.”

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation

And you will say in that day:

“Give thanks to the Lord,
call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name is exalted.

“Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.

Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

Around the Word

NIV Second Reading Isaiah 12

Isaiah 12 Songs of Praise

In that day you will say:

“I will praise you, Lord.

Although you were angry with me,

your anger has turned away

and you have comforted me.

Surely God is my salvation;

I will trust and not be afraid.

The Lord, the Lord himself, is my strength and my defense;

he has become my salvation.”

With joy you will draw water

from the wells of salvation.

In that day you will say:

“Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name;

make known among the nations what he has done,

and proclaim that his name is exalted.

Sing to the Lord, for he has done glorious things;

let this be known to all the world.

Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion,

for great is the Holy One of Israel among you.”

Around the Word

NASB Third Reading Isaiah 12

Thanksgiving Expressed

Then you will say on that day,
"I will give thanks to You, Lord;
For although You were angry with me,
Your anger is turned away,
And You comfort me.
Behold, God is my salvation,
I will trust and not be afraid;
For the Lord God is my strength and song,
And He has become my salvation."
Therefore you will joyously draw water
From the springs of salvation.
And on that day you will say,
"Give thanks to the Lord, call on His name.
Make known His deeds among the peoples;
Make them remember that His name is exalted."
Praise the Lord in song, for He has done glorious things;
Let this be known throughout the earth.
Rejoice and shout for joy, you inhabitant of Zion,
For great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Read
Listen
Read Silently
Read Out Loud

Write out Focus Verse

Write key words that speak to you from this passage

Thoughts, Learnings, Prayers

