

Reading God's Word for Transformation Questions to ask?

READ (What's Up? What's the background going on? What's the background?)

- Who is the author? Why does that matter?
- Where is this taking place?
- Who are the people in this passage? What is their background?
- Who is Jesus talking to? Who is this written to?
- What is confusing?
- Is anything repeated a lot?
- Is there a conflict or a problem?
- What is the context? (look before and after the verses)
- What stands out to you?
- What is surprising?
- What is encouraging to you?
- What other version can we read the same verses in?
- Let's read it again... Is there anything you noticed this time you didn't notice before?
- Who in the passage do you relate to the most?
- Let's listen to the passage (play it on Bible app)

REFLECT (the bottom line of what God wants me to know)

- What do I learn about who God is?
- What do I learn about myself?
- What do I learn about Jesus? How do we see Jesus foreshadowed? (Old Testament)
- What would this be like if the passage was written in modern times?
- Do I ever act like the people in this story or the description in this passage?
- Why is this in the Bible? What is God trying to teach us?
- How does this passage encourage me or show me God's love?
- How could God be challenging me?
- What emotions are stirred up in me as I read this?
- What is the point of this passage?

RESPOND (So What? I read it, I get it, how do I let it transform me? Now What?)

- Is God wanting me to start doing anything? Stop doing something? Continue doing something?
- What is one step you could take?
- How do you feel about the step (s) you feel called to take? Are there any barriers? Why might you not want to respond?
- Are there any attitudes that I have that need to change?
- How can what I read affect my relationships at home?
- How can what I read affect my relationships with friends or at work?
- How can what I read affect my relationship with God?

RESPOND (continued)

- Is God wanting me to confess anything?
- Is God wanting me to thank Him or praise Him in anyway?
- Are there any parts of my life that need to be surrendered? (be specific)
- How can this help me live as a missionary?
- Did God put anyone on your heart when you read the passage?

REMEMBER (How will I not forget? In 8 hours, if someone asked me what I read in God's Word today, could I share a learning or insight?)

- What can I do to help remember what God is teaching me today? (how do I remember to do other things?) (post-it note - reminder on my phone etc.)
- How as a group can we help each other remember? (text during the week, email, phone call)
- How can we hold each other accountable? What does that look like?
- Is there a tangible object or a mental picture that could help you remember?
- How can we help you take action on what God is asking you to do?
- What did we talk about tonight that you would like to review in the next few days?
- Who can you share what you learned with?
- Is there a verse you would like to memorize?
- How can I walk away and do something with what God taught me today?

These questions can be asked when reading God's Word by yourself, with a friend or in lifeGroup.