

# Praying as We Read God's Word

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Praying God's Word should include more than finding verses that suggest praying God's will for ourselves and others. We ought to read and pray God's Word as we worship, confess our sins, surrender our lives and will, the things Jesus taught us we should include in our personal prayers every day (Matthew 6:9-13).

If we read God's Word prayerfully, praying as we go, it can easily become an integral part of our prayer time. As we read, we can talk to God, thanking Him for His revelations of who He is (His names, titles), what He is like (attributes, characteristics), how He works in the world, and what He expects of us.

If we ask, He will help us develop a listening ear that hears from Him as we read, gleaning new understanding of what we're reading, guiding us to apply it to our lives. He'll help us develop the habit of meditating on what we've read, making an effort to remember and think about it during the day.

Always, we should keep in mind that prayer is meant to be a dialogue between us and our heavenly Father. We speak and He listens; He speaks—not audibly, but clearly to our hearts—and we should respond. At times it will seem to be a conversation between our Abba Father and His child. At other times, He may seem more like our Teacher speaking to His student, or our Shepherd leading us as His dependent sheep.

Come to Bible reading with anticipation—you are meeting with Immanuel, God who is with you!