



## How do children jump into the Word to meet with God every day?

According to James 1:17-25 there are four actions involved in Bible engagement:

1. Receive God's Word "humbly" James 1:21.
2. Reflect on God's Word "intently" James 1:25.
3. Remember God's Word by "not forgetting" James 1:25.
4. Respond to God's Word by "doing it" James 1:22-23, 25.

To do this effectively, children need to learn a technique.

I recommend coaching children to use the 4 R's Method:

**Receive** – Begin with prayer. Confess sin. Thank Jesus for the opportunity to meet with Him. Read or listen to a Bible passage/story. Expect the Word of God to be alive and active (Hebrews 4:12).

**Reflect** – Find the main point in the passage/story. Imagine being one of the characters. Read one sentence at a time then pause, listen and think. Ask yourself, "What is God saying to me?" Rewrite the Bible passage/story in your own words. Chat about the passage/story with another Christian.

**Remember** – Lodge God's Word in your mind and hide it in your heart. What's the phrase or sentence that caught your attention? Write it down on a piece of paper. Carry it with you through the day. Read it repeatedly until you've memorized it.

**Respond** – Be a Nike Christian – just do it! What did you learn in God's Word that you need to act on today? (Deuteronomy 30:14). Live it out! Is there something you should share with a friend or family member? Can you help someone in some way? Pray, using the words or themes in the Bible passage/story to direct your prayer.

Finally, teach children to read or listen to the Bible as a means to an end – and that end is to be like-minded, have the same love, and be of one mind and one spirit with Jesus (Philippians 2:1-4).

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