

C3 SYD

# Next Step

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Growing your  
Devotional Life.



YOU WILL SEEK ME  
AND FIND ME, WHEN  
YOU SEEK ME WITH  
ALL YOUR HEART.

Jeremiah 29:13

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SO JESUS SAID TO THE JEWS WHO  
HAD BELIEVED HIM, “IF YOU ABIDE  
IN MY WORD, YOU ARE TRULY MY  
DISCIPLES, AND YOU WILL KNOW  
THE TRUTH, AND THE TRUTH WILL  
SET YOU FREE.”

John 8:31-32

## What does it look like to grow in your devotional life?

A devotional life is a daily practice of praying and reading the bible. We participate in this as a community in weekly services, connect groups and as individuals in our personal time. Growth in your devotional life looks like establishing a consistent routine for spending time with God through these practices.

## Why is it important to grow in this step?

### IT ORIENTS OUR HEARTS TOWARD GOD

When we pray and read the bible, we are taking time to seek God and know Him more.

*“You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.” - Jeremiah 29:13*

In prayer, we are openly communing with God. We can bring the issues of our hearts to Him and make space for Him to speak to us about them.



When we read the bible, we encounter the truth about God and our identity in Him. As we spend time reading and meditating on the scriptures, the Holy Spirit instructs us to live in His ways.

*“For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.” - Hebrews 4:12*


## **IT BRINGS LIFE TO OUR SPIRIT**

We need to eat and drink to sustain and grow our physical bodies. In the same way, our spirit needs sustenance through prayer and reading the bible. We grow in maturity to become more like Jesus when we practice this.

*“As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?” - Psalm 42:1-2*

*“...man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.”*

**- Deuteronomy 8:3**



“...MAN DOES NOT LIVE BY BREAD ALONE,  
BUT MAN LIVES BY EVERY WORD THAT  
COMES FROM THE MOUTH OF THE LORD.”

Deuteronomy 8:3

## JESUS MODELLED AN ACTIVE DEVOTIONAL LIFE

When we look at the gospel accounts, we see that Jesus had a well-established devotional life.

He lived by the scriptures and often would seek solitude to pray to his Father in heaven (see **Matthew 14:23, Mark 6:46, Luke 6:12, John 17**). This practice sustained and equipped Jesus during his life and ministry on earth; how much more do we need this practice in our lives?

## How can we grow in this step?

To grow in your devotional life, you must find what works for you. Decide on a plan and tell someone you know and trust about it so they can support you in this step.

Your plan should include these details:

- 1. When works for you?** This could be in the morning, during your lunchtime, evening, or at various moments throughout the day.
- 2. Where works for you?** This could be your bedroom, outdoors, or on the train.

**3. How long will you spend praying and reading the bible?**

You might be able to spend 10 minutes each day praying and reading the bible, or you might have an hour. The amount of time is not the goal; make this timeframe realistic so you can stick with it.

**4. What you will pray about & what you will read from the bible.** You might want to try a resource to bring structure or focus to your devotional time, like a bible reading plan or a guided prayer app. These are great tools to help you if you aren't sure what to read or pray.

## Ready to take this step?

Scan the QR code to find a video on growing your devotional life and recommended resources.



[c3syd.church/nextstep/](https://c3syd.church/nextstep/)



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