

## “He Doesn’t Read”

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by Wayne Goff

**A** shocking response from some to whom I recommended a Bible book or resource: “I don’t read.” What? Are you illiterate?! No, but they don’t make a habit of reading because they do not like it or are not very good at it. What a waste of the mind! If you’re too busy to read the Bible, then I suggest you are too busy with whatever you’re doing!

Brethren, you can **learn to enjoy** reading God’s Word. I understand that you do not have the time of a full-time gospel preacher, but God expects you to take advantage of the Bible translation in your own language. God’s providence made it available. And if you have difficulty actually *reading* text, then you can always get an **audio** Bible that will read to you! In **1 Timothy 4:13, ESV**, Paul commanded Timothy: “*Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.*” This was important primarily because a complete copy of the Bible wasn’t available to everyone in that day and age! And secondarily, brethren left to themselves may neglect proper Bible reading. Consider **Acts 13:15; 2 Corinthians 13:14** as well.

Reading improves with practice. The Bible has its own vocabulary and when you first begin reading it, learning the vocabulary can be a bit exhausting and frustrating. But in a short time, with patience and diligence, you can master the Bible’s vocabulary, and read more effectively. But please don’t tell me: “I don’t read!”

I believe the real reason for not reading the Bible more is *lack of interest*. The Bible is written for people who wish to know God’s will and do it. It is a “revelation” – **a revealing** – of the mind of God to man. “And this is the worst part of biblical illiteracy. When we neglect reading the Bible, we don’t just miss knowledge, we miss God. We’re privileged to worship a God who makes himself known to us in words. And we’re doubly privileged to have almost constant access to those words...” (Justin Dillehay). “... *‘It is written, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”’*” (**Matthew 4:4, ESV**). So pick up your Bible and begin to read it!

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