Meet With God

Introduction: Here is a simple way to meet God every day in His word. Think about this time in 4 R's, spending a few minutes in each area: Receive, Repent, Rejoice, Respond. Consider writing throughout this time. Before you begin, spend a few minutes talking to God in prayer: Ask Him to meet you, and transform you.

RECEIVE

"Receive" from God's word. Take a few minutes to read a chapter in the bible (if you don't know where to start, try the Gospel of Mark). Note important words, themes, and His train of thought. Stop reading when something jumps out to you. Write it down. No need to read any further. Take a moment to rephrase or summarize what has jumped out to you, and then consider why.

REPENT + REJOICE

"Repent." Sometimes the truth you've just written will highlight something in your life that is in contrast to who God is, or what God wants. What have you done, or said, or thought, or felt, or not done, or done in order to make God owe you, or hidden, or boasted about, or ______ that is not pleasing to your Father. Be honest and specific. Ask Him for forgiveness. Ask for help to turn from (repent) these things towards Him.

Now, **Rejoice**! Yes, right now though nothing is actively different, rejoice! Rejoice and thank God for His forgiveness and grace, freely given to you in Jesus. Tell Him how grateful you are for His mercy. He loves you like His very own son or daughter.

RESPOND

- "Respond." Decide how you are to obey by living in response to and in step with God.
- 1. <u>What am I to believe</u>? Did I learn something about God or myself? Is there a truth to cling to? How is this passage good news to me because of Jesus?
- 2. <u>What am I to do?</u> How does my faith compel a specific action? Is there something I am to do? Is there sin I must not do, or confess to God and a friend? How does Jesus do all I did not, forgive me, and empower me to obey?
- 3. <u>Whom can I tell?</u> Is there a person who knows Christ who can help me obey? Is there someone (Christian or not) who might be encouraged, challenged, or resonate with this truth? How does God's grace to me in Jesus spill over to others?