

FALL 2021



Colossians

Read. Study. Live.

WOMEN INSEPARABLE

Romans 8:35-39

Just do it.

Start.

*Open your Bible
- D.E.*



Lord, help me to discern what I am reading.

Father, I desire to remember what I read. Please help me to hide your words in my heart.

Lord, direct my eyes to your understanding of the Scripture. When I utilize resources and study tools I pray you will help me to press on in your knowledge rather than leaning on the given resource as a crutch. Grow me, I pray.

Father, open thou mine eyes that I may behold marvelous things from your Word. May I simply glean the most my heart and my mind can comprehend for today.

Father God, I know how to study. And I thank you for all the times you and I have had together in your Word. Lord, if I may, please renew the sweetness of your Word upon my tongue today.

Oh, Lord God, that I may do today what you would have me to do.

My mind, Lord, and all that I have is yours. I ask that you will steady the thoughts that crave my attention right now. Focus my mind on you.

PRAYER TIME

Find the truth you want to lay before God as you ready your heart to seek him.



God, legalism keeps sneaking in on my study time with you. I know legalism is not your will, your way. Help me to call out the laws of man and replace my actions with the freedom found in Jesus Christ.

Oh, Lord God, this world is broken. It hurts. Yet, Lord, in my hand is your Sword. Please help me to use your Word with love to the world around me.

Every day, Lord Jesus, I want to fall in love with you every day. May today be evident of our love, yours for me and mine for you.

God, at times, my knowledge of Scripture leads me to be judgmental of others. It breaks my heart just admitting this. Please make judgment a sore upon my tongue. Oh, that I will shine my knowledge of your Word and not throw it as a stone.

Lead me and I will follow.

You declare that your sheep know your voice. I am in your pasture. I know your voice. Open my ears to hear it more clearly that I may have full confidence in the way you are leading me to go.

Oh, Sweet Lord, how I desire to share what I have learned with those you surround me with. How? When? What do I say? Lord, these three questions I want to ponder today. Prepare me now for the open door that awaits.

Lord, sometimes I have questions that feel daunting. How do I know what answer is correct? Help me to pinpoint my heart's question, so I can more easily pinpoint your answer.

SIMPLE TRUTHS

Read, study, and live the Word of God - where you are/as you are.

Read:

To read is where it all begins. Simple yet a challenge that causes such defeat within our own expectations. Therefore, our first goal throughout this study on Colossians is to *Read*.

Just read. Read a word from Colossians every day. What that looks like for you is going to look different than what that looks like for me. This is good. This is personal. This is real.

Think of Jesus every day and *read*.

Study:

To study is often where we want to start each Scripture journey, isn't it? Studying the Word of God is so vast, so beautiful, so accomplishing (selfishly and eternally), so we just want to *jump*.

After we spend much quality time with our God reading His love for us, then I ask that we jump into a study of the same thing we were reading.

As we study, let us study for two things:

1. To ask questions.
2. To seek out the answers to your questions.

Live:

To live what we are reading and what we are seeking is the greatest testament of His Love in us. This step in our reading journey is where the Holy Spirit begins to shine in ways only He can.

For the Word of God touches our hearts and impacts our lives so personally, so uniquely, that as we read and as we seek out questions and answers, we begin to develop a Christ-likeness that radiates ever so purely from our daily existence.

This removes us from the "I need to do better" dialogue and allows the Holy Spirit the freedom He desires to have within you. How beautiful is this truth?

READ

Leave your Bible out
so it's easy to get to
and put your phone
away. -D.W

*Come to the Lord as a
friend wanting to
learn from the Great
Teacher. imagine the
gift of sitting with
Him as He tells you
about His Word! -
S.M.*

READ

**Read and study
the Word of God
over and over
because that is
how He speaks
to His children.
Psalm 119:11 -
M.S.**

READ

Even if it is just
a few verses -
we need God's
Word daily -
Guard with
jealousy your
time with the
Lord. - T.M

READ

*Make a "time" to study
Pray (ask) for help and
understanding.*

Worship music

*Maybe start off with
something small like a
daily devotional.*

*Search topic in Bible
app. Talk to the Holy
Spirit. Wait.*

Listen.

*Discuss with other
believers. -M.S.*

PERSONAL CHALLENGES

Write it down. Share it with a friend. Do it.

Don't feel guilty
about what you
don't know.
Be grateful for
the opportunity
to grow and
learn. Don't
compare yourself
to others. -K.W.

RESOURCE LIST

Comprehensive list of safe online sites and commentaries

Bible Project – Colossians Overview Video [bibleproject.com](https://www.bibleproject.com)

Popular Commentaries

N.T. Wright - Tyndale New Testament Commentary on Colossians and Philemon

David Garland - NIV Application Commentaries: Colossians, Philemon

Dick Lucas - The Message of Colossians and Philemon

Academic Commentaries

Douglas Moo - Pillar New Testament Commentaries: The Letters to the Colossians and to Philemon

David Pao - Zondervan Exegetical Commentaries on the New Testament: Colossians & Philemon

Scot McKnight - New International Commentary on the New Testament: The Letter to the Colossians

Marrienne Thompson - Two Horizons New Testament Commentary: Colossians and Philemon



ASK QUESTIONS

*Break it up in
small amounts
when you study.
- S.G.*

ASK QUESTIONS

**Precept upon
precept -S.W**

*Reading different
versions and/or a
study Bible can be
helpful. Refer to
commentaries AFTER
you've sat with a
passage on your own.
-D.C.*

ASK QUESTIONS

**There's always
something to learn.**
- M.M.

*Ask the Holy Spirit to
guide, to bring
discernment, and to
keep you focused as
you read & study.*
- R.C.

ASK QUESTIONS

Use a good quiet
space for your
study. -W.N.

Be devoted to
search and dig.
- T.M.

PERSONAL CHALLENGES

Write it down. Share it with a friend. Do it.

You don't have to read for any particular amount of time. I sometimes only get 5 minutes in for a short devotional. I used to think it wasn't enough, but God understands my life and speaks to me even in my short devotionals.
- C.B.

LIVE

Dang! I'm not the
one who should give
advice!

I guess it would be:
Pray and ask God to
speak to you through
the Scripture and
trust that He will!!!

- J.B.

LIVE

*Keep trying.
Keep reading.
Keep asking.-
J.S.*

*Be strong. Just go
and get involved
and connected.
- P.C.*

LIVE

Beware of thinking
it has to "look" a
certain way.

-P.H

Silence your phone
and put it away;
close your laptop.

- A.M.

LIVE

Don't feel pressure to live up to what others might be doing in their studying. God sees you where you are. - B.M.

Be in the Word every day. We need the Lord's help to get us through this life, and his Word gives us what we need to do it. - S.O.

PERSONAL CHALLENGES

Write it down. Share it with a friend. Do it.

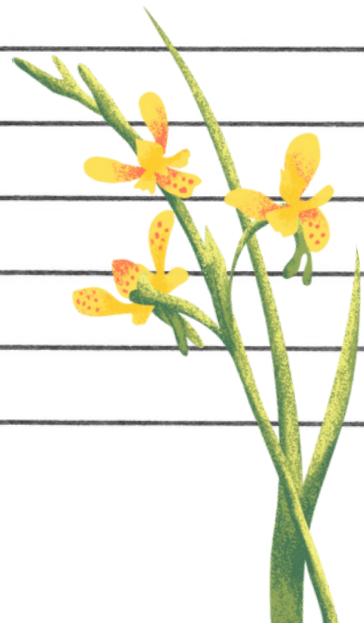
Show up.

**Even if it is just
sitting for five
minutes.**

**Success and
discipline is
achieved in the
little moments for
consistently
showing up. - S.H**

PRAYER LOG

Keep this time of written prayer about you and God.

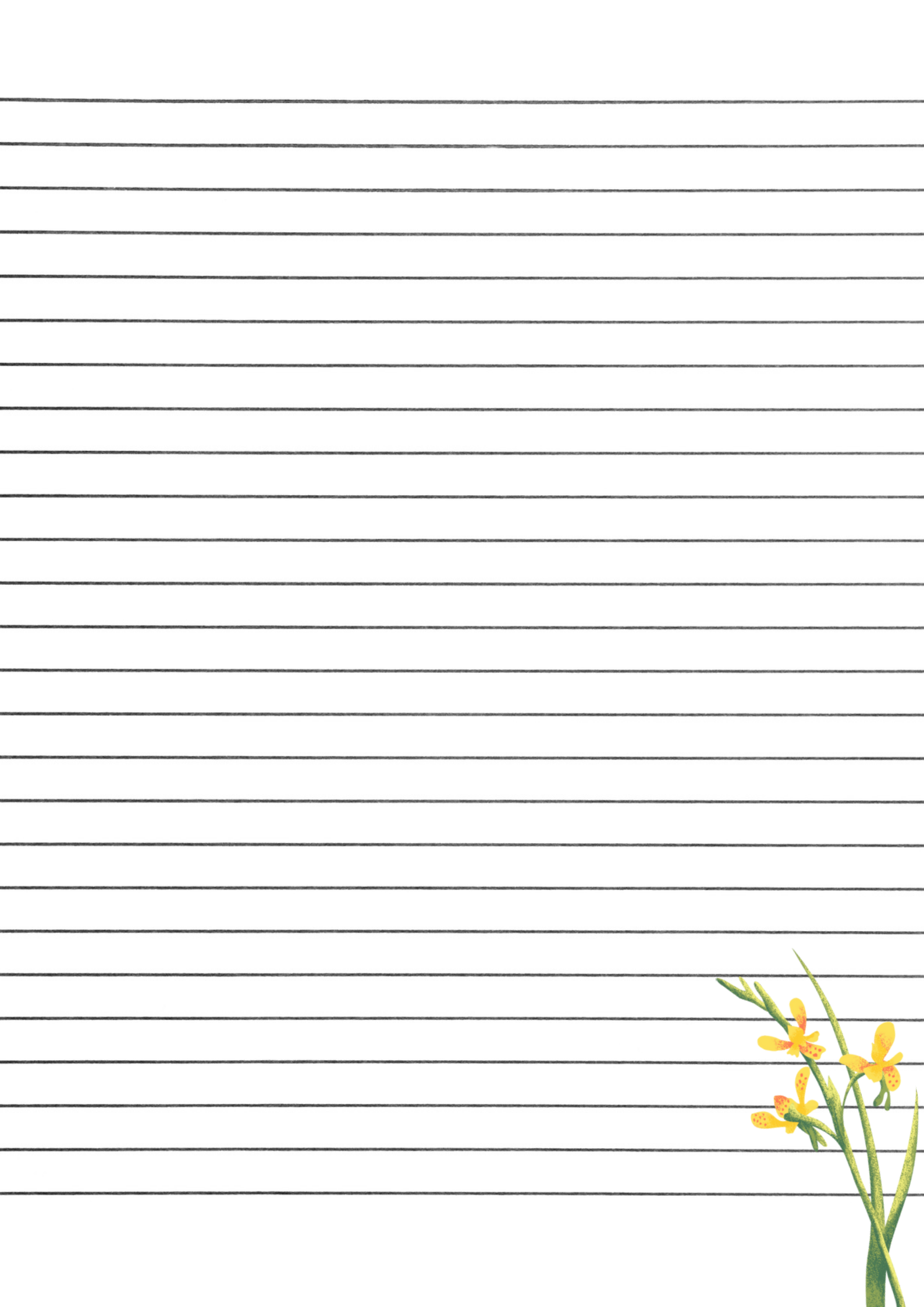


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It's about Jesus.

Always.

- J.P.

