

**REAP** (Read, Examine, Apply, Pray) is a straight forward way to process what you're reading, either on your own or with a small group of people.

## **READ**

Open your Bible and ask the Holy Spirit to teach, correct, and train you (2 Timothy 3:16). As you're reading, ask these questions:

- What is happening in this passage? What things are emphasized, repeated, related?
- What do you see about God? What is God doing in this passage?
- What do you see about man?

## **EXAMINE**

Spend some time reflecting. Ask yourself these questions, and write down your thoughts:

- How do you think the author wants his audience to respond?
- What do you learn about God's character?
- What wrong beliefs about God and myself did I have?

## **APPLY**

After examining the passage, apply the text to your own life. Ask yourself these questions:

- How do I need to repent? What truths do I need to believe? What false beliefs must I turn from?
- What can I do – empowered by the Holy Spirit – today to apply this passage?

## **PRAY**

Pray through the passage and your application, asking God to change your heart and to change your life, based on the time you've spent in God's Word.

**\*\*After you finish, share what God taught you with at least one person—your roommate, your spouse, your kids, or your coworkers. Don't keep what God taught you to yourself.**

# AN EXAMPLE OF REAP

TITLE: The Greatest Commandment

SCRIPTURE: Mark 12:28-31

## READ

Jesus tells the scribes that the most important commandment is to love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. He continues, saying that the second most important commandment is to love your neighbor as yourself.

## EXAMINE

God made us with different faculties: a heart to have emotion, a mind to think, strength to do, and a soul that is eternal, and I am commanded to love God with the fullness of all of my faculties. This is the first and greatest commandment; every other area of obedience flows out of this.

Jesus says the command to love our neighbors is like the first commandment. Loving others as myself is somehow connected to loving God with all of my being.

## APPLY

Do I think of loving God with all that I am as the greatest and first call on my life? No. I have reduced obedience to praying or being kind to my family and friends, or fighting the desire to lie.

Do I love God with my mind: Do I seek to study His Word daily, think about Him and learn about Him?  
Do I love God with my heart and soul: Do I have affection toward something that is stronger than my affection toward Him? Do I love God with my strength: Do I actually live out his Word rather than just knowing his Word?

I can think of several people that I am far from loving well. How is that lack of love for others connected to my lack of love for God?

## PRAY

Father, I confess that I can't muster up the love that you want from me. Give me a new mind, a new heart, a new soul, and new strength, and give me the ability to love you fully with all of my faculties.

I pray for my mind specifically – that I would honor you today with my thoughts and love you well. I pray for my relationship with my father and my brother. Help me to love them because I love you and you made them!