



# **READING TO EXCEL**

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# INTRODUCTION

- Glory to God and thanks to the organizers
- Youth represent the future of our society
- Their moral, intellectual and spiritual upbringing is a God-ordained and serious assignment
- Youth must realize that nothing good comes easy
- They need to study, develop themselves and live right for them to fulfil God's plan for their lives
- Our topic– READING TO EXCEL- presupposes that it is possible to read and yet end up a mediocrity.
- We aim to highlight the things that should be done or avoided so that we can excel in our respective fields
- We shall rely on the Bible and human experience to guide us.

# BASIC POINTS IN READING

- **Scope** – published books, magazines, journals; online material; material on microfilms/microfiche; lecture and lesson notes
- **Motives/Goals:** for entertainment; to pass examinations; for self-development; to fulfil roles
- **Implication/Benefits:** you develop your vocabulary, knowledge base and self-esteem/confidence; what you read or know determines the quality of your mind, thought processes, pronouncements and decisions; and roles
- A READER IS A LEADER – ignorance is the bane of leadership in Africa



# BIBLICAL PRECEPTS ON READING-1

- II Tim 4:13 –“bring with thee ... the books, but especially the parchments.” Place GREAT VALUE on books.
- II Tim 2: 15 – To read is to STUDY
- Acts 8: 30b- Read with UNDERSTANDING; REFLECTION



## BIBLICAL PRECEPTS ON READING-2

- Proverbs 4:7 – “Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom, and with all thy getting, get understanding;” Rom 12:11 – “Not slothful in business...” – GRIT is demanded
- Acts 17: 11 – There must be DEPTH to our reading – SEARCH for knowledge to confirm, refute and accumulate knowledge.

# BEST PRACTICES IN READING

- **Circumspection** – discern and discriminate (what to read and avoid; what to skim or excavate; what to retain or forget); distinguish between compulsory and required/recommended texts
- **Reading Habit** – the habit is cultivated, inculcated and sustained (regularity) – books as constant companions; discipline and sacrifice required; **reading and re-reading** in line with age and changing circumstances (for depth and emphasis); dialogue between experience and reading (one influences the other); impact of background, level of literacy and exposure on reading culture
- **Methodology**: from cover-to-cover; focused or target reading (chapters); subject-focused (use of index); **reading between the lines** – context and sub-text; the letter and the spirit; speed and accuracy (pacing yourself); relate reading to nature and demands of subject/discipline
- **Aids to Reading** – TOC, blurbs, index, mnemonics (for retention and retrieval), search engines; dictionaries; illustrations; imagination; associating people, places and events with reading; note taking – mental and written; margin notes; asking questions, discussions and interactions



## CONCLUSION

- Reading develops the mind; it calls for Comprehension, Reflection and Application
- There is a direct connection between **reading** and **writing**; & between **reading** and **excellence**
- **Reading is a lifelong vocation or enterprise!**
- **Prov. 22:29** – “Seest thou a man diligent in his business? He shall stand before kings, he shall not stand before mean men”
- **John 13:17** – “If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.”

THANKS FOR LISTENING.  
GOD BLESS!

