

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding an open Bible. The person is wearing a plaid shirt and is lying in bed, with a plaid blanket visible. The Bible is open to a page with text, and the person's fingers are resting on the pages. The overall scene is intimate and focused on the act of reading.

ENGAGING

A SERIES ON READING GOD'S WORD

THE WORD



THE BENEFITS OF

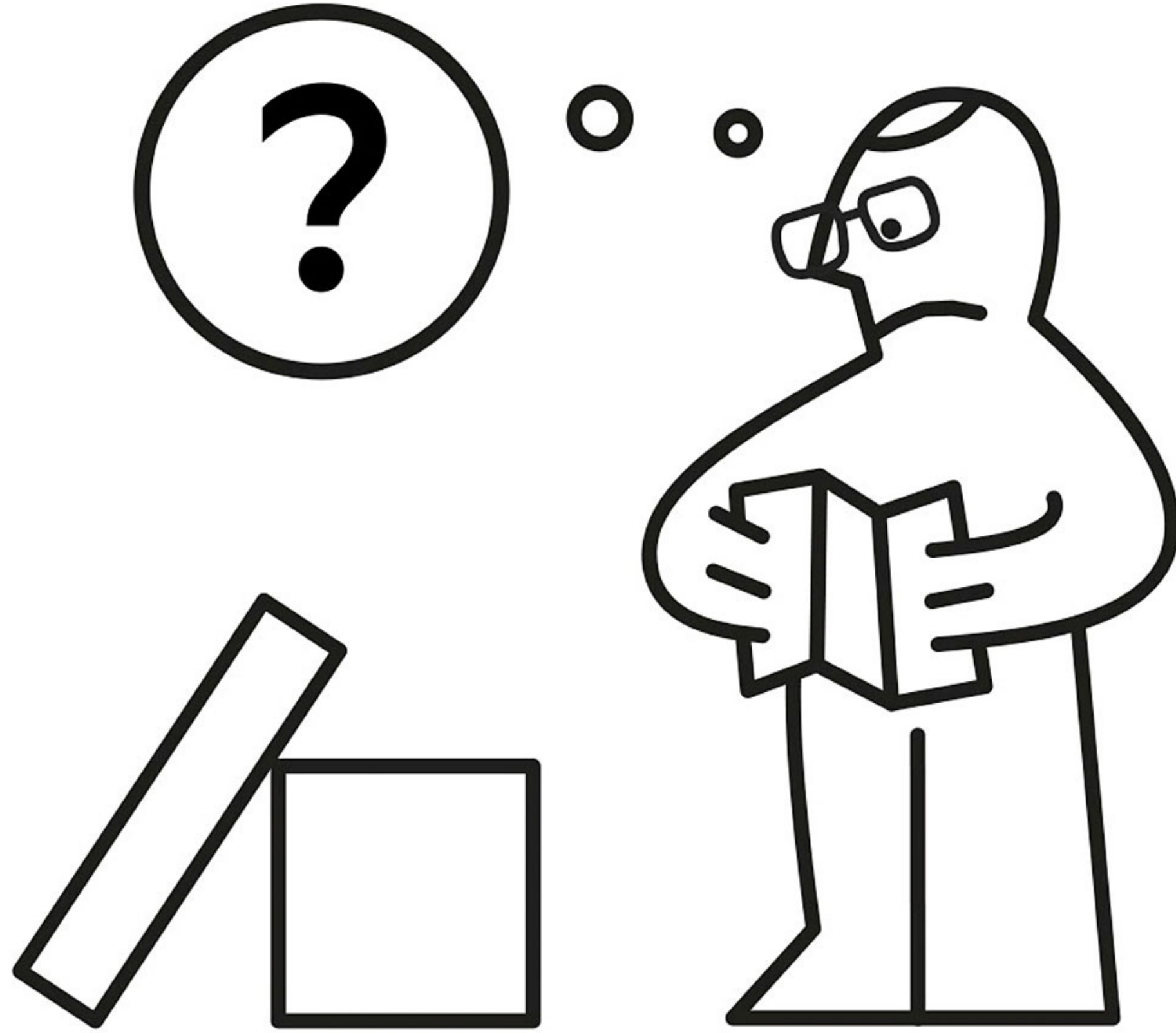
ENGAGING

A SERIES ON READING GOD'S WORD

THE WORD









BIBLE

BIBLE

Book of

Instructions

Before

Leaving

Earth

Engaging the Word

Anonymous Survey

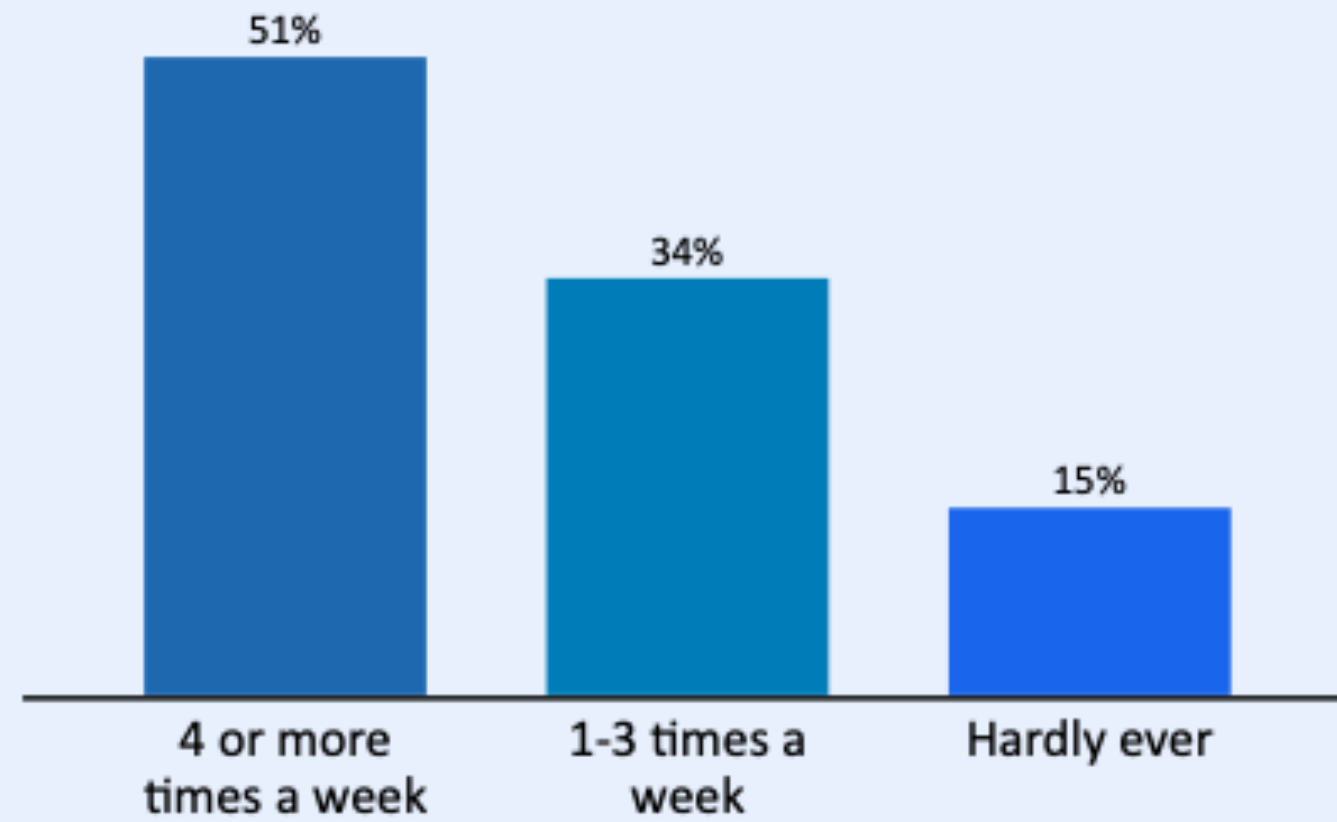
**On average, how often do you
read/listen to the Bible in a week?**



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Centre for Bible Engagement

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There was a significant difference between people who read the Bible **4 or more days in a week**, and those that didn't.

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40,000 Americans ranging in age from eight years to more than 80 years.

“The life of someone who engages scripture 4 or more times a week looks **radically different** from the life of someone who does not.

In fact, the lives of Christians who do not engage the Bible most days of the week are statistically the same as the lives of non-believers.”

Centre for Bible Engagement

Someone who engages the Bible 4 or more times a week is:

- **228% more likely to share faith with others**
- **231% more likely to disciple others**
- **406% more likely to memorise scripture**
- **30% less likely to struggle with loneliness**
- **57% less likely to get drunk**
- **75% less likely to gamble**
- **68% less likely to have sex outside of marriage**
- **59% less likely to view pornography**
- **57% less likely to participate in any of these bad habits.**

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The Benefits of Engaging the Word

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Three Benefits of **Engaging the Word**

Three Benefits of Engaging the Word

- 1. It is food for our soul**

John 6:35

“Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”



Matthew 4:4

"...Man shall not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from
the mouth of God."



Psalm 1:1-3

1 Blessed is the one
who does not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that sinners take
or sit in the company of mockers,
2 but whose delight is in the law of the Lord,
and who meditates on his law day and night.
3 That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither—
whatever they do prospers.





**WHAT YOU
CONSUME
IS WHO YOU
BECOME**

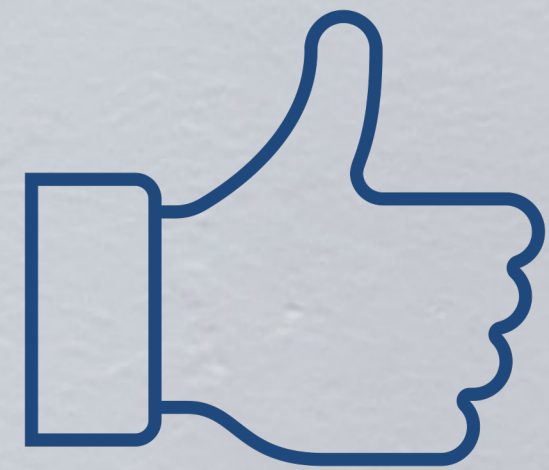
Three Benefits of Engaging the Word

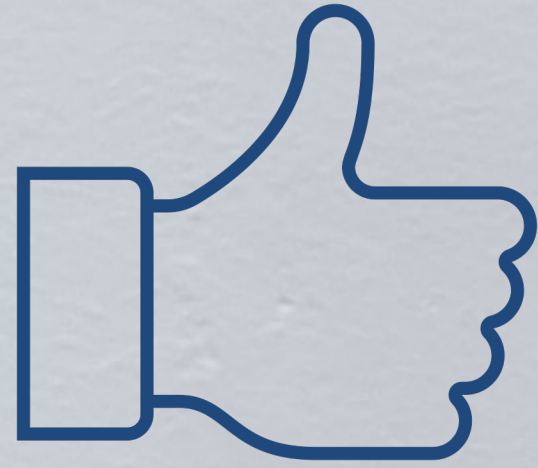
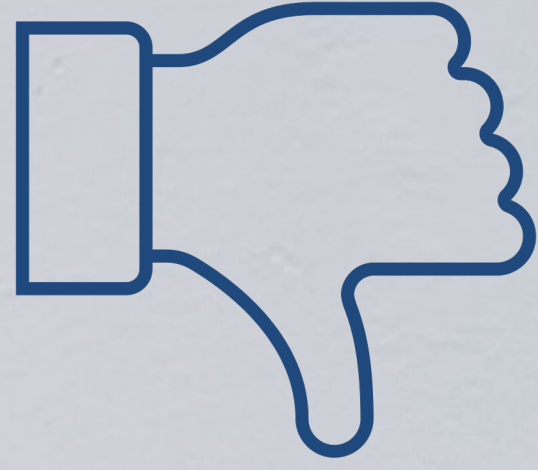
1. It is food for our soul

Three Benefits of Engaging the Word

- 1. It is food for our soul**
- 2. It keeps us on the right path**







What are you being influenced by?

Romans 12:2

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, **but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.** Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

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Someone who engages the Bible 4 or more times a week

- **Getting drunk** 57% lower odds
- **Sex outside marriage** 68% lower odds
- **Pornography** 61% lower odds
- **Gambling** 74% lower odds
- **Any of these habits** 57% lower odds

Centre for Bible Engagement

“The low rates of Bible engagement among American Christians have tremendous ramifications for local churches and the Body as a whole. Like sheep, we tend to **drift away from our Shepherd.** Living in a world filled with temptations, disconnection from God’s Word can increase our chances of giving in to those temptations.

Without a firm grasp of the Bible, nurtured through daily reading or listening, we weaken our ability to defend the faith we claim, less confident to share that faith with others, and more vulnerable to falling prey to false teachings.”

**What are you being
influenced by the most?**

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Three Benefits of Engaging the Word

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Three Benefits of Engaging the Word

1. It is **food** for our **soul**
2. It keeps us on the **right path**
3. It helps us be a **better disciple**



TO BE A COMMUNITY OF

disciple - makers



I WILL SEE YOU AS YOU ARE
LOVE YOU WITH UNSINNING HEART



3999

43999



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Matthew 28:19-20

¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”



Centre for Bible Engagement

“More scripture engagement also produces a Christian who is more involved in **spreading the Good News**. Those who read or listen to the Bible at least four days a week have higher odds of participating in these behaviours:

- Sharing faith with others 228% higher odds
- **Discipling others** **231% higher odds**
- Memorising scripture 407% higher odds

Three Benefits of Engaging the Word

1. It is **food** for our **soul**
2. It keeps us on the **right path**
3. It helps us be a **better disciple**

"I remind you that God wrote a Book; and He only wrote one. I wonder what we'll say to Him at the Judgment Seat of Christ if He asks us, "Did you read My Book? I mean one time in your entire life did you read My whole Book?"

Woodrow Kroll, August 2009

