

HOWARD THURMAN  
**BIBLE** INSTITUTE

# More on Reading Your Bible

52 WEEKS WITH GOD  
JANUARY 9, 2018

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# Benefits of the Bible

- ▶ The Bible is Important for Children of God to pursue
  - ▶ Our **Being** (Who We Are)
    - ▶ Believing
    - ▶ Behaving
  - ▶ Our **Blessing** (What We Do)
    - ▶ Blessing God (Worship)
    - ▶ Blessing Others (Service)

# Coming to Scripture

- ▶ Come Prayerfully
- ▶ Come Sensitivevely
- ▶ Come Willingly

# Come Prayerfully & Sensitive

- ▶ Come Prayerfully
  - ▶ Recognizing our **need**
  - ▶ Requesting the Spirit to speak afresh today
- ▶ Come with a Sensitivity to
  - ▶ Our personal cares and **concerns**
  - ▶ The burdens of our community and society

# Come Willingly

- ▶ Come expectantly asking, “God, what...
  - ▶ do You want to say **to me?**”
  - ▶ do You want to **say through me?**”
- ▶ Come obediently asking, “God, what
  - ▶ do You want me to know or to **believe?**”
  - ▶ do You want me to start, to stop, or to **correct?**”

# Don't Miss the Messages

- ▶ Scripture invites us to multiple messages
- ▶ There's the Message for
  - ▶ the Original Audience back then
  - ▶ The Contemporary Audience right now

# Message for Them

- ▶ Author Historically:
  - ▶ The human writer
- ▶ Audience Contextually:
  - ▶ The recipients, their culture, their conditions
- ▶ Address Synthetically:
  - ▶ The overall understanding or broad direction

# Message for Us

- ▶ Author Supernatural
  - ▶ The Holy Spirit is the “Holy Ghost Writer”
- ▶ Audience Contemporary
  - ▶ Compare/contrast original audience & us
- ▶ Address for Today
  - ▶ How does that message minister to us today?

# Additional Opportunities

- ▶ Structure or Layout
- ▶ Genre and Style
- ▶ Patterns or **Proportions**
- ▶ Items or Terms Repeated or **Related**
- ▶ Themes Emphasized or True to Life

# Example from Genesis

- ▶ Let's look at how repetitions and patterns
  - ▶ can help highlight or emphasize
  - ▶ can help communicate structure
- ▶ A look at the Hebrew word *tol'dot* in Genesis
  - ▶ Let's examine the exercise on your handout
  - ▶ Even more interesting considering the name!

# Questions & Answers

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HAPPY READING,  
EVERYBODY!

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