

Dear Friends, In making disciples in accordance with Matthew 28:18-20, we've observed certain disciplines used by people of all ages and backgrounds as ways to follow Jesus Christ consistently. We've especially noted the benefit of spending undistracted time alone with God (UTAWG as Darin likes to describe it!). Darin emails morning devotionals like these below as samples from the **One Year Bible**, which we'd like to send you for using in any way that helps you model having daily time in the Word.

Proverbs 11:24-26 (English Standard Version -- ESV with all of these passages given for today from the One Year Bible: Numbers 36-Deuteronomy 1; Luke 5:29-6:11; Psalm 66; Proverbs 11:24-26)

24 One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want. 25 Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered. 26 The people curse him who holds back grain, but a blessing is on the head of him who sells it.

What did I learn about God?

God takes care of the needs of those who give of themselves in taking care of others.

What difference does this make in my life?

I'll minister to those around me and not just take care of my family.

How can this reading help me disciple men?

I can encourage Christians during the COVID-19 crisis to compassionately help those hurting around us, starting with specifically praying for people impacted by the virus and their needs.

Psalm 63:5-8 (English Standard Version -- ESV with all of these passages given for today from the One Year Bible: Numbers 30-31; Luke 4:1-30; Psalm 63; Proverbs 11:20-21)

5 My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips, 6 when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night; 7 for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy. 8 My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.

What did I learn about God?

God satisfies the souls of people who know and pursue Him spiritually, even as they go to sleep or during their wakeful moments at night.

What difference does this make in my life?

I'll focus on God's Word and His protective presence in my life during times of feeling alone when it won't work to talk with a person.

How can this reading help me disciple men?

I can encourage Christians in continually communicating, with or without spoken words, to the LORD Jesus Christ and experience our Friend Jesus always in our lives.