

## **D1: The Heart: Honoring the Lord in our Bible Reading**

### **Introduction:**

### **Eight principles from Proverbs 2 for shepherding your heart to honor the Lord in your Bible reading:**

1. Humbly receive God's words as given (2:1)

See also: Genesis 3:1-5; 15:1-6; John 5:45-47

2. Consistently assume that the human author and the divine Author's intentions are one and the same (2:1, 6)

An example: Haggai 1:7-12

3. Attentively focus on the details of the text (2:2)

An example: Zechariah 2:6-12; 4:8-9; 6:9-15; 12:10

4. Prayerfully plead with the Lord for understanding (2:3)

5. Diligently search God's wisdom in God's word (2:4)

6. Regularly purify your motives for reading God's word (2:5, 9)

Reason 1: Fear God (2:5)

See also: Proverbs 1:7; 3:7; 8:13; 9:10; 14:2; 15:33; 16:6; 28:14; 31:30; Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

Reason 2: Know God (2:5)

See also: Jeremiah 9:23-24; John 17:3

Reason 3: Obey God (2:12-20)

See also: I Peter 2:1-3; I Timothy 1:5-7

7. Trustingly resign yourself to the sufficiency of God's word (2:9-11)

An example: anxiety (see Ps 94:19; Mt 6:25-34; Ph 4:6-9)

8. Eagerly read God's word in anticipation of a future day (2:20-22)

See also: Genesis 26:4-5; Psalms 24 and 95; Hebrews 3:7-4:3