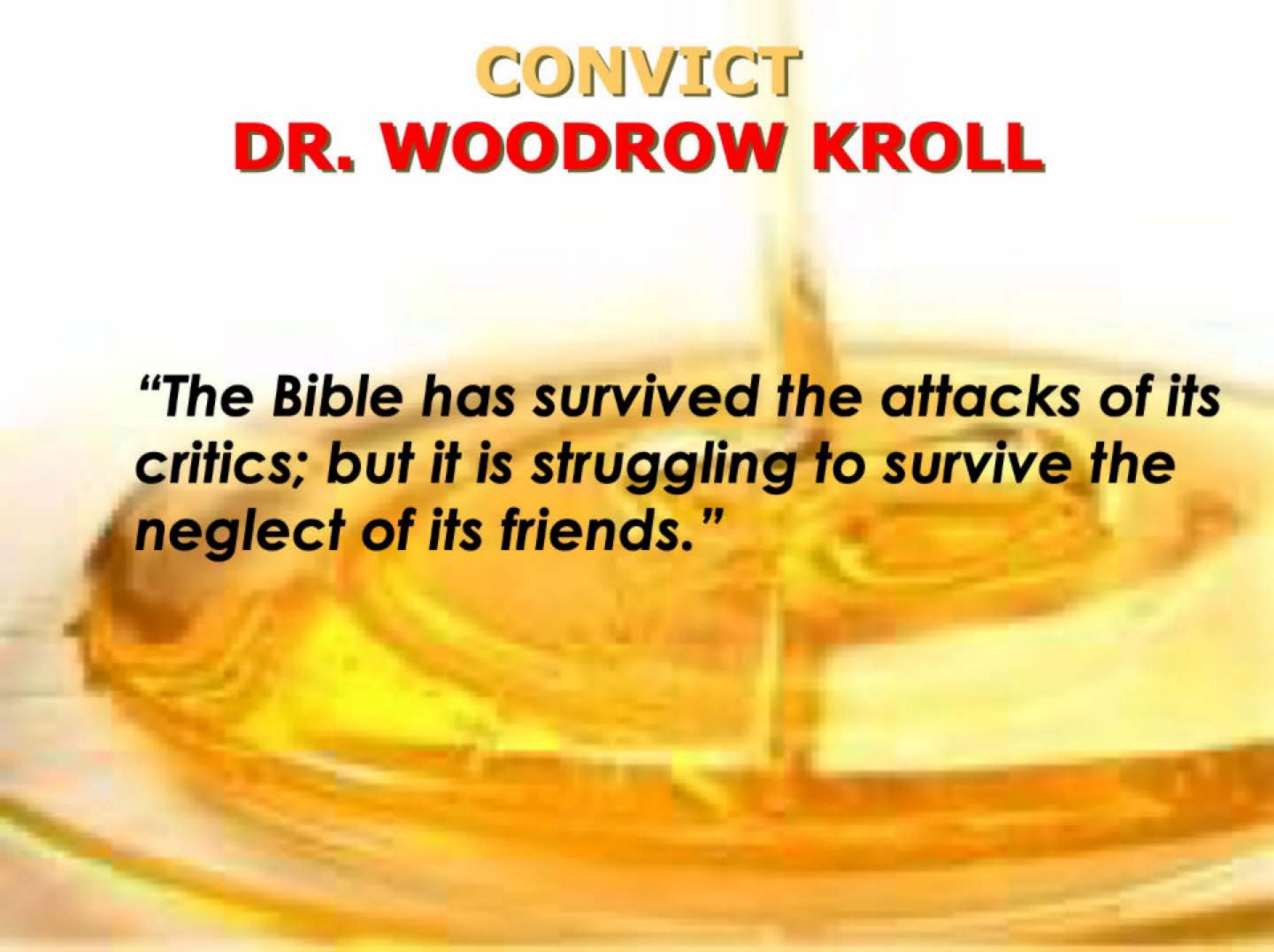




**THE
EZRA PROJECT**[®]
connecting God's people to God's Word

SWEETER THAN HONEY



CONVICT
DR. WOODROW KROLL

“The Bible has survived the attacks of its critics; but it is struggling to survive the neglect of its friends.”

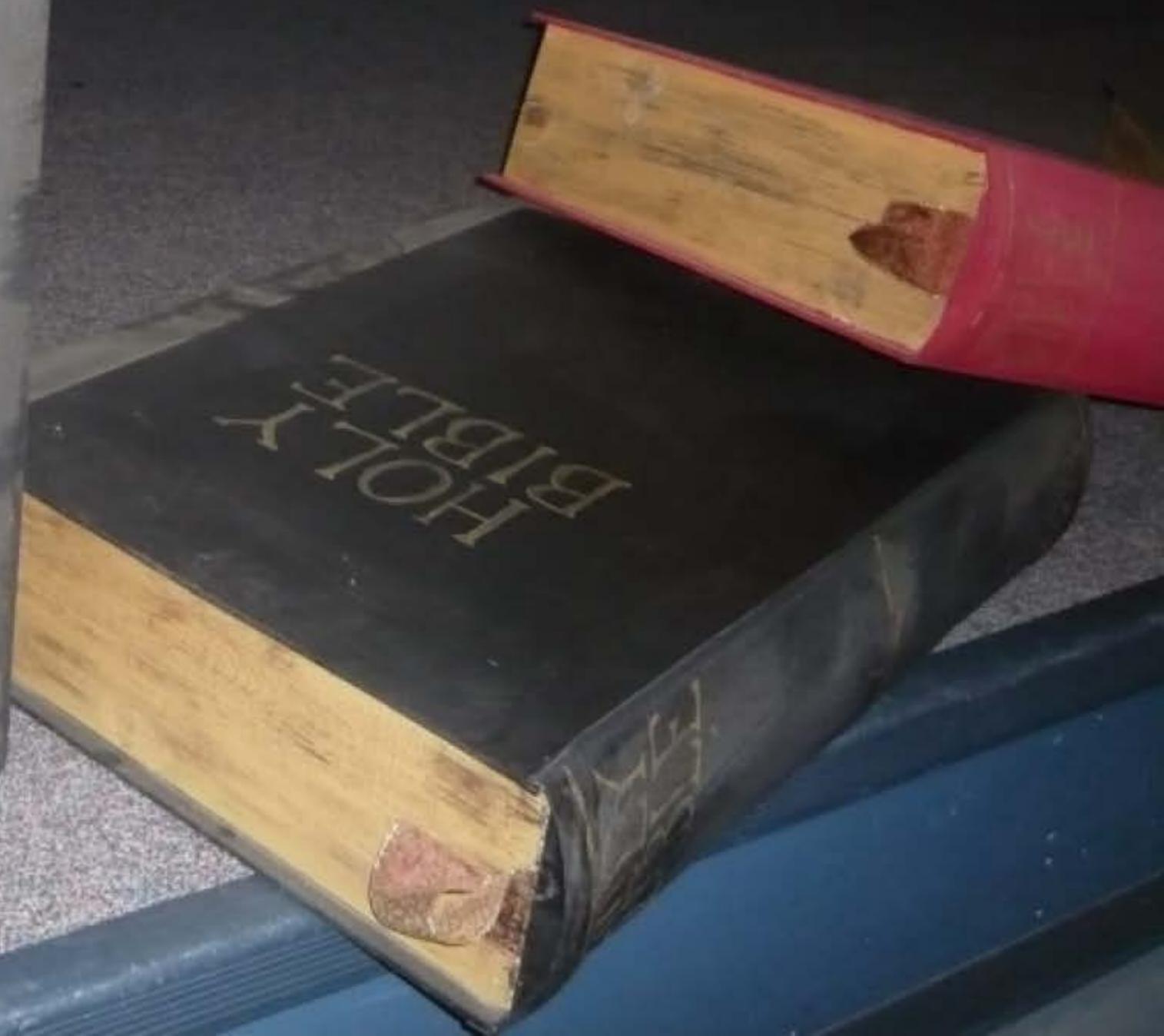
CONVICT **LIFEWAY & CHARISMA**

“Non-Christians don’t have even the general idea of the Bible they once did. Christians are not seeing the life change that real Bible engagement brings. The result is a nation in spiritual free fall...We are living in a post-biblically literate culture.”

CONVICT

LIFEWAY & CHARISMA

“We have a biblical literacy deficit in part because we have a spiritual maturity deficit. Plenty of research shows the correlation between spiritual maturity and reading the Bible...You simply won’t grow if you don’t know God and spend time in His Word.”



CONVICT
2 TIMOTHY 4:3-5

“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.”

ENCOURAGE SIGNS OF HOPE!

- **Lack of excitement, no desire, don't know where to start**
- **52% wish they used the Bible more**
- **71% of Americans are curious**
- **Bible app downloads are growing**
- **Sales of all translations are up**

ENCOURAGE

PSALM 19:7-11

“The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; the statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward.”

ENCOURAGE
PSALM 119:103

***"How sweet are Your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!"***

HONEY



ENCOURAGE

ALBERT BARNES

“Honey was the sweetest of all substances, and regarded as an article of luxury...the truth of God, as revealed...affords more pleasure to the soul, than that which is esteemed as the highest luxury to the palate...it is loved; it is pleasant; it is agreeable; it is not regarded merely as necessary...as medicine is, but it is received into the soul because it is delighted in, or is more agreeable and pleasant than the most luscious article of food is to the taste.”

ENCOURAGE

WHY READ THE BIBLE?

- ***It brings me closer to God***
- ***I need wisdom for making life decisions***
- ***I need comfort***

ENCOURAGEMENT

WHY READ THE BIBLE?

1. It's God's Word. *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."* John 1:1



ENCOURAGEMENT

WHY READ THE BIBLE?

- 1. It's God's Word. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." John 1:1**
- 2. God told you to. "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success." Joshua 1:8**

ENCOURAGEMENT

WHY READ THE BIBLE?

"These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so." Acts 17:11-12

ENCOURAGEMENT

WHY READ THE BIBLE?

"These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so." Acts 17:11-12

3. It's very important. ***"For You have magnified Your word above all Your name."*** Psalm 138:2

ENCOURAGE

HOW TO ENJOY GOD'S WORD

- 1. Make time for Bible reading. Psalm 55:17; morning, evening, lunch. Tithe 10% of your free time; 30 minutes a day.**

ENCOURAGE

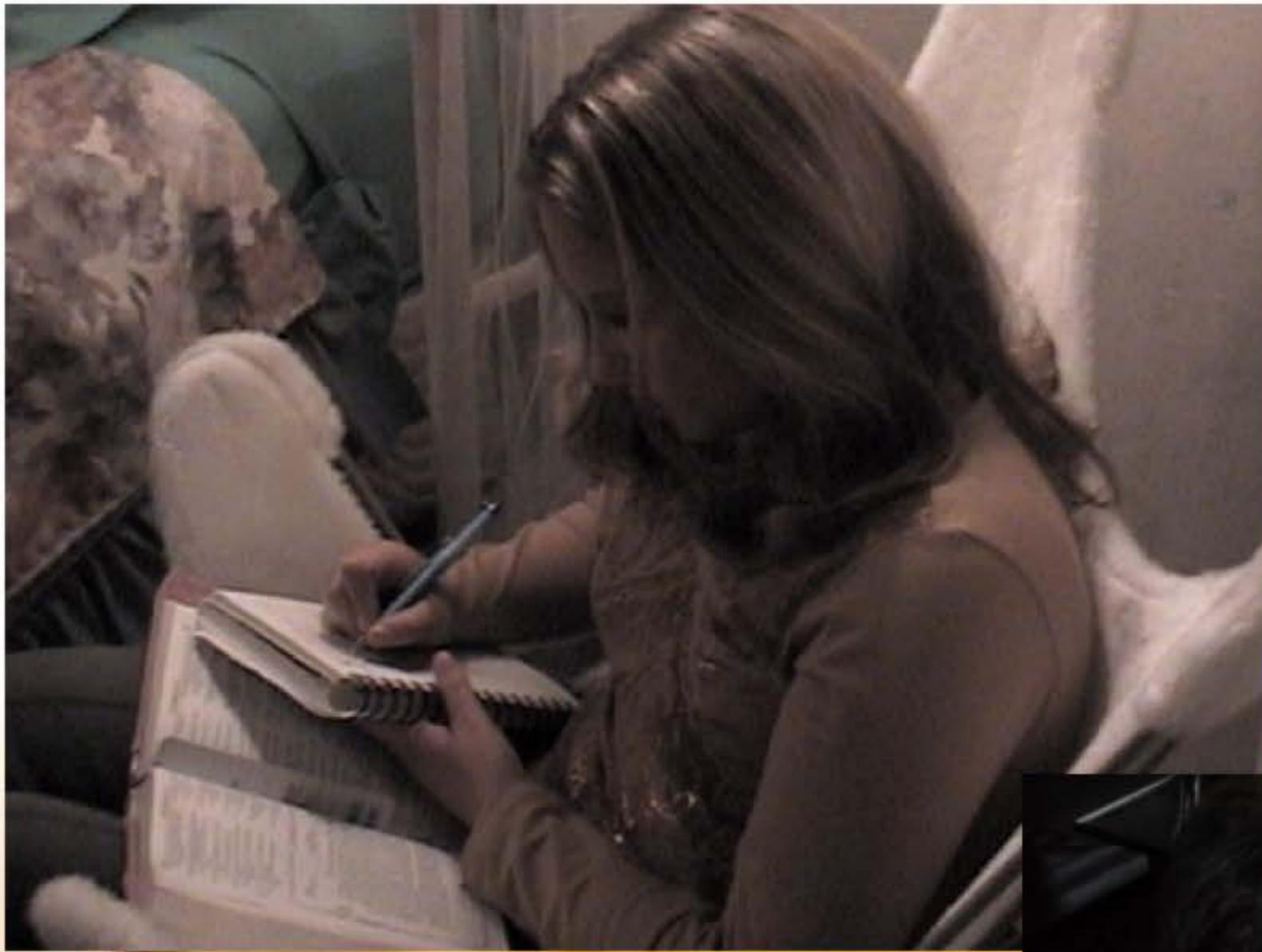
HOW TO ENJOY GOD'S WORD

- 1. Make time for Bible reading. Psalm 55:17; morning, evening, lunch. Tithe 10% of your free time; 30 minutes a day.**
- 2. Read to be transformed not informed. Hebrews 4:12; soul and spirit, thoughts and intents of the heart.**

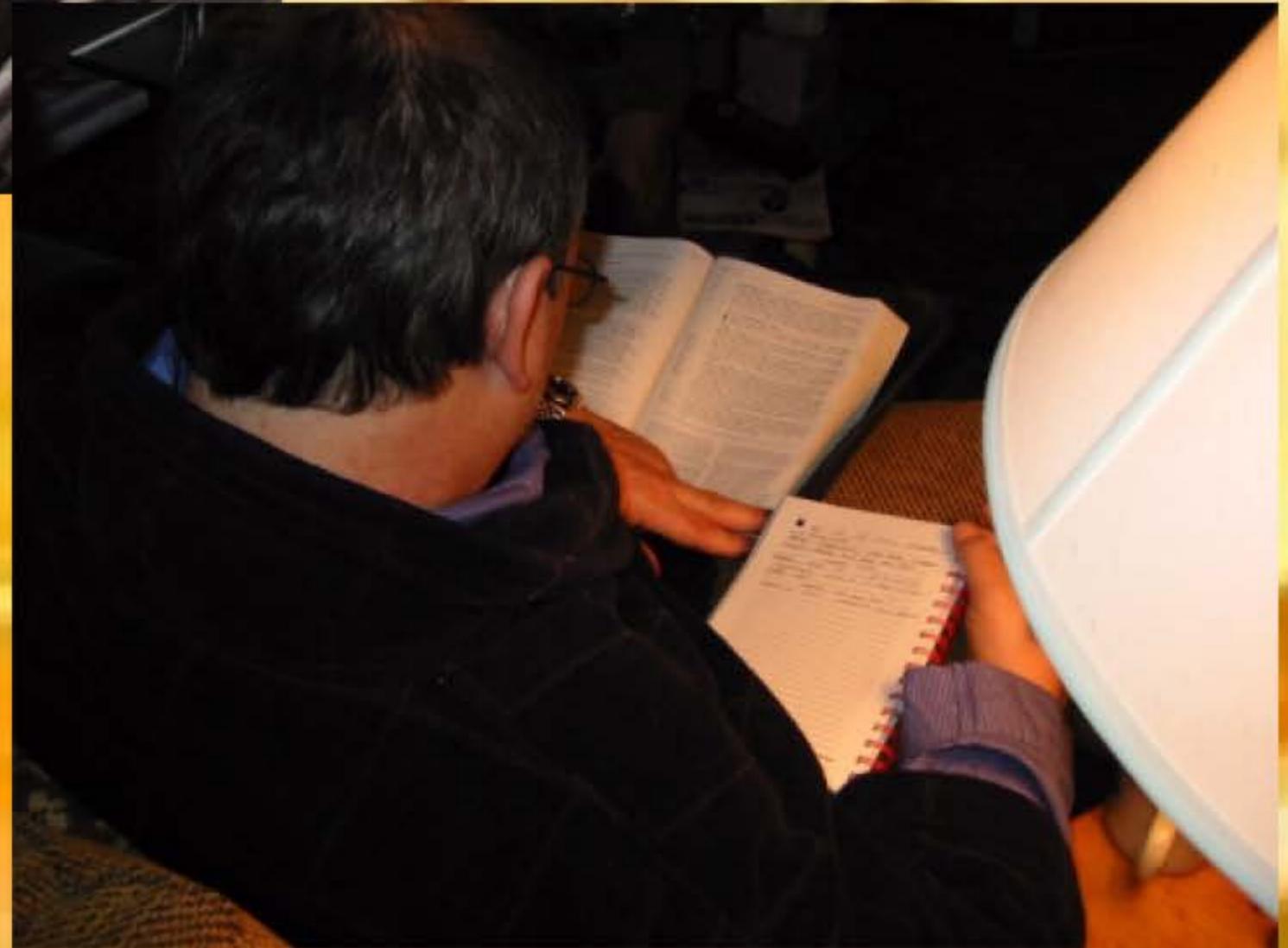
ENCOURAGE

HOW TO ENJOY GOD'S WORD

3. Apply God's Word to daily life. James 1:22-25; not a check off, because you should, or have to.



QUIET TIME EXAMPLES



ENCOURAGE

A 2024 PLAN

- **January – Matthew, Luke, Acts**
- **March – Major Prophets**
- **July – Old Testament Leaders**
- **November – John, Revelation**

ENCOURAGE ACTION STEPS

1. Commit



ENCOURAGE

ACTION STEPS

1. Commit

2. Be Intentional



ENCOURAGE

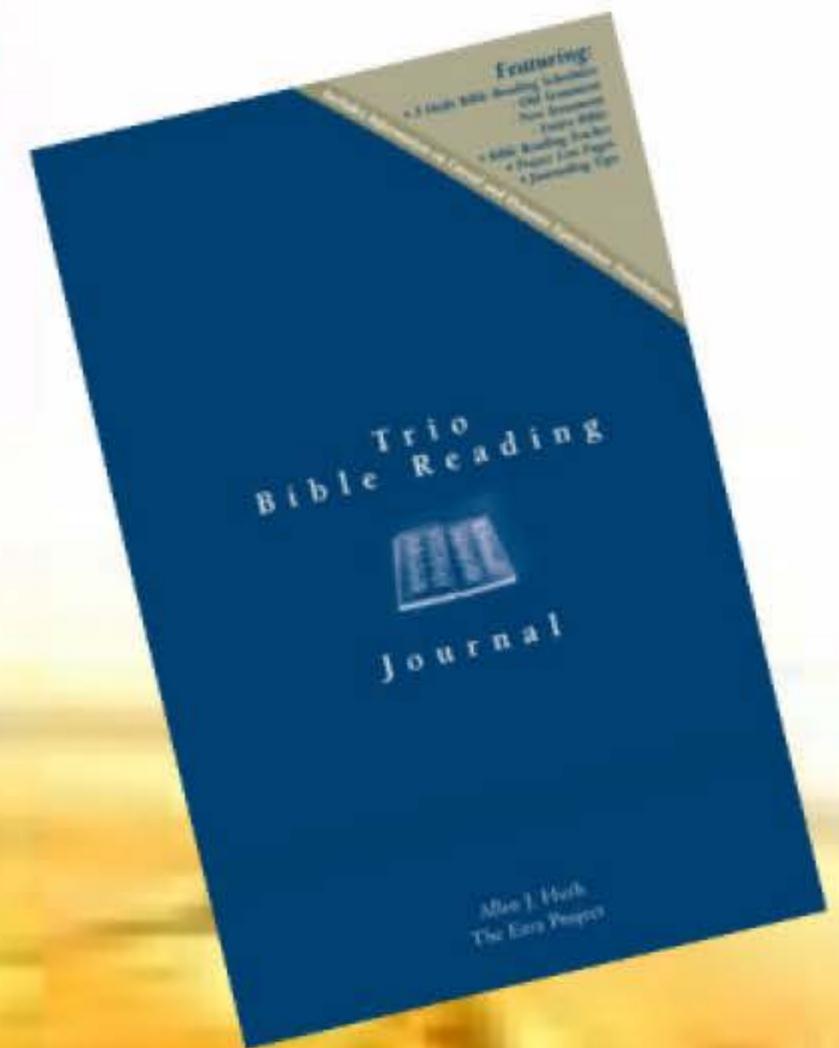
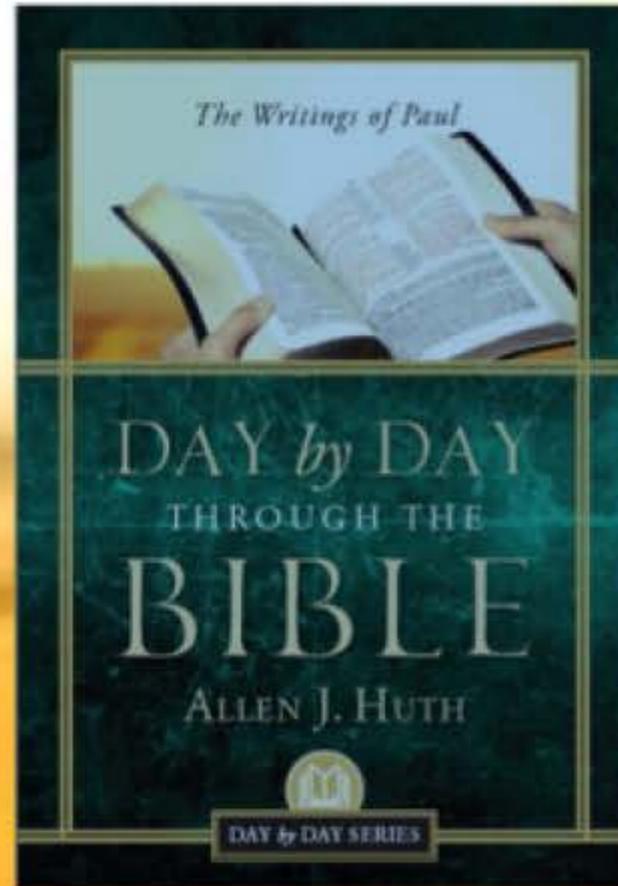
ACTION STEPS

1. Commit

2. Be Intentional

3. Journal

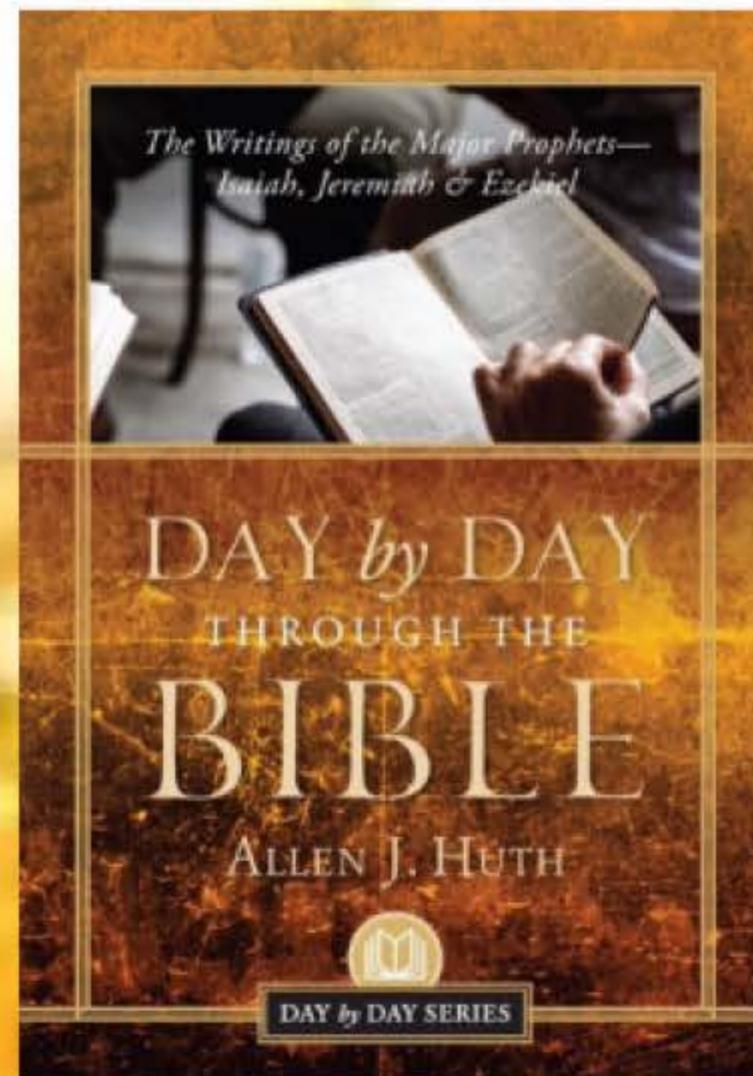
ENCOURAGE JOURNAL



Chronological Journals
Trio Journals
11 Day by Day Workbooks

EZRA PROJECT RESOURCES

**ADD
ADD
BIBLE**



**CLUB
365**

ENCOURAGE
PSALM 119:103

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sweeter than honey to my mouth!"***