



Introduction - Amazing Grace!

Today's Sermon:
The Church as the Truth
1 Timothy 3:14-16

Three Incredible Truths about the Church from 1 Timothy 3:14-16

1. We are the household of God
2. We are the church of the living God
3. We are the pillar and foundation of the truth

Wow! Uncle Ben is a prophet!!
"With Great Power comes Great Responsibility"

How do we (not just the pastors!) live up to this?
By becoming "people of the Book!"

What's the benefit of doing this?
Isaiah 55

1 Timothy 3:14-17

Romans 15:4-7

How are we going to do that?
GUPA

Get ready for a year 7 Minute United Devotional!
Psalm / Gospel / Other

Gospel Application - *Will you be a person of the Book?*

1 Timothy 3:14-16

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Isaiah 55:10-11

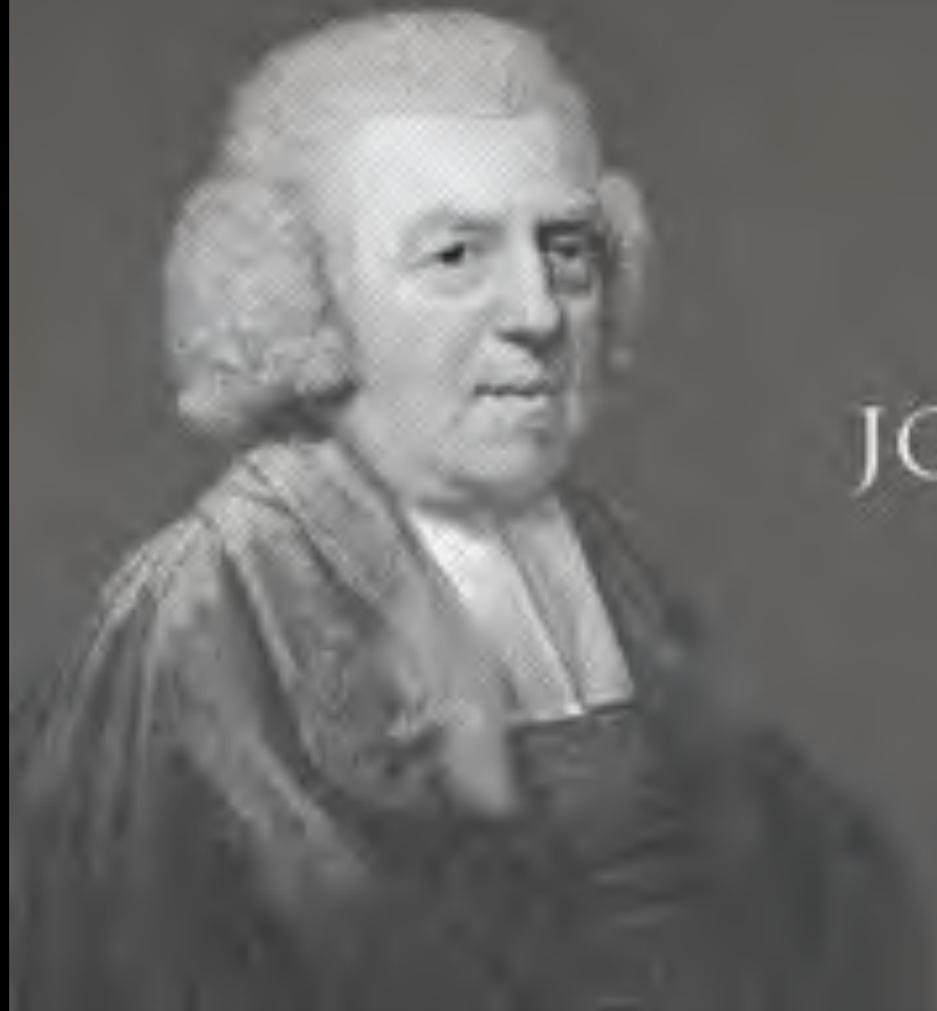
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2 Timothy 3:16-17

¹⁶All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Romans 15:4-7

⁴For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope. ⁵May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, ⁶so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.



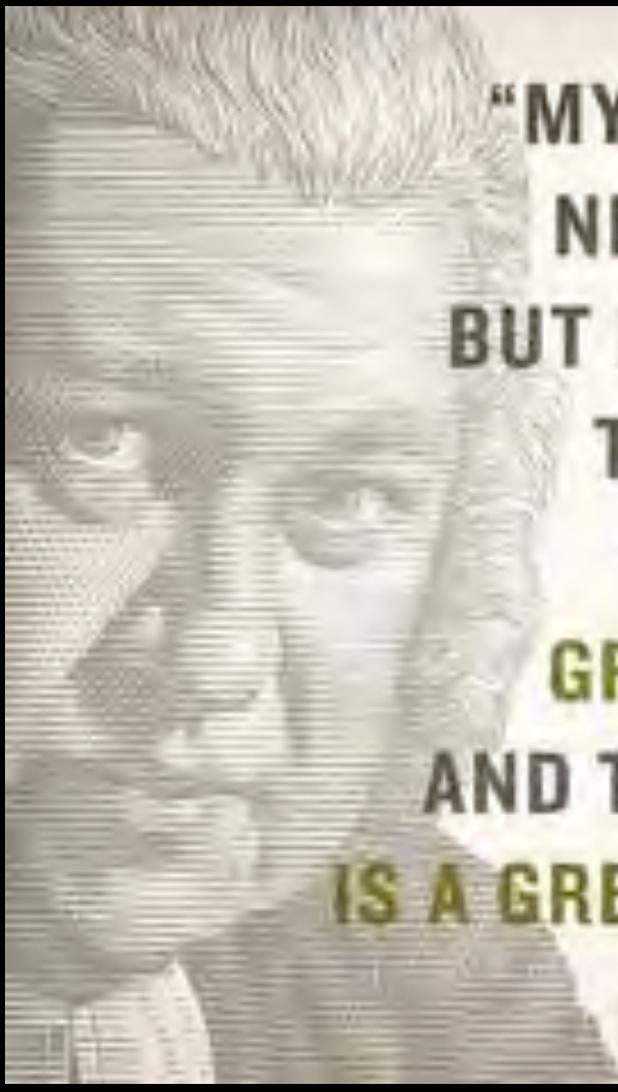
JOHN NEWTON

1725 - 1807

A photograph of a sunset over a mountain range. The sky is filled with orange and yellow clouds, and the sun is low on the horizon. The mountains in the foreground are dark and silhouetted. A watermark is visible in the upper right quadrant of the image.

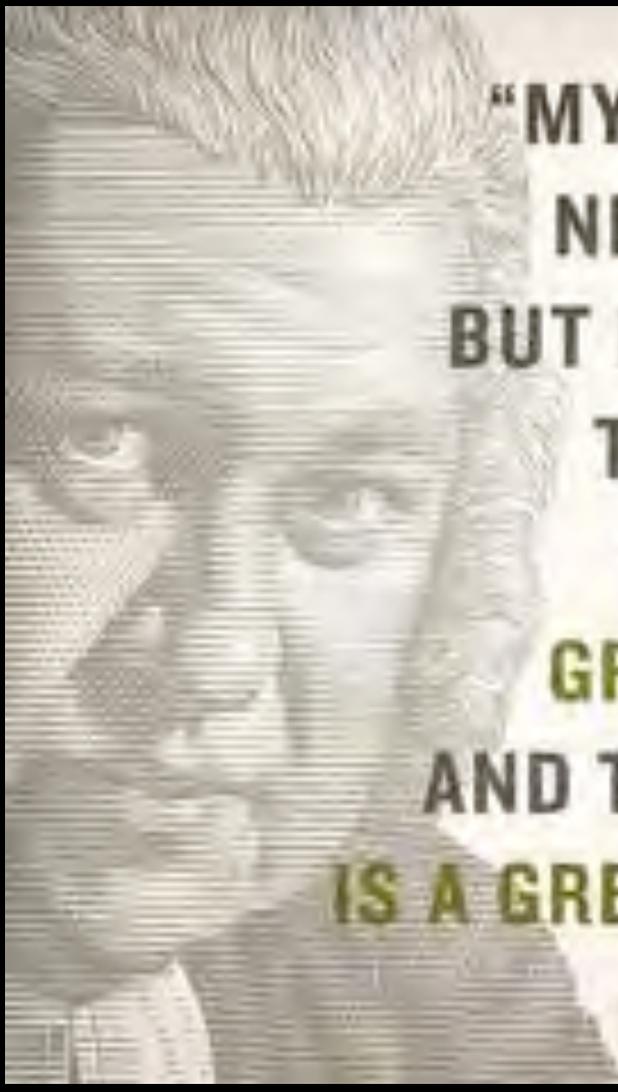
www.emul.com/worship.com

Amazing grace how
sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now am found
Was blind but now I see



**"MY MEMORY IS
NEARLY GONE,
BUT I REMEMBER
TWO THINGS:
THAT I AM A
GREAT SINNER
AND THAT CHRIST
IS A GREAT SAVIOR."**

—JOHN NEWTON



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—JOHN NEWTON

**"Stop? I cannot stop.
What? Shall the old
African blasphemer
stop while he can
speak?"**

~ John Newton, months before
his death



Clementa Carlos "Clem" Pinckney
(July 30, 1973 – June 17, 2015)



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HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH
IN 2020



THE 20/20 INITIATIVE

www.hopecc.com/2020



Today's Message:
The Church as the Pillar of Truth
1 Timothy 3:14-16

hopecc.com/slides

hopecc.com/notes

1 Timothy 3:14-16

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He appeared in the flesh, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory.

Three Incredible Truths about the Church

1. We are the household of God

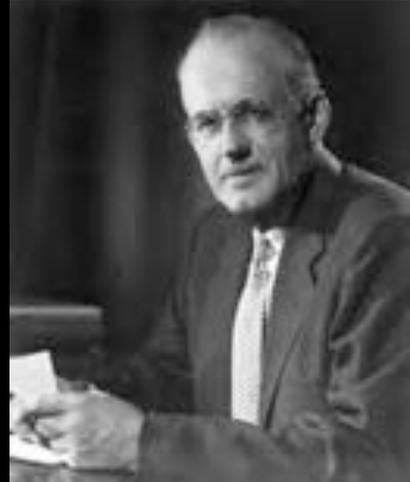
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“Has it ever occurred to you that one hundred pianos all tuned to the same fork are automatically tuned to each other? They are of one accord by being tuned, not to each other, but to another standard to which each one must individually bow. So one hundred worshipers met together, each one looking away to Christ, are in heart nearer to each other than they could possibly be were they to become “unity” conscious and turn their eyes away from God to strive for closer fellowship.



Three Incredible Truths about the Church

2. We are the church of the living God

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Three Incredible Truths about the Church

3. We are the pillar and foundation of the truth

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This awesome reality lays equally awesome responsibilities on the church. Just as a foundation undergirds a building or a pillar supports the roof, the assembly of believers has been appointed to uphold and undergird, in this world, the truth that God has revealed through Christ. This is a divine call to allow the Word of God to saturate all of life. Jesus himself prayed for the church, “Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth” (John 17:17). The truth of the Bible is to form and inform the foundation and the pillars.



God's Word is to be everything to us in the church. As the preface to the Geneva Bible in the seventeenth century summarized, the Bible is "the light to our paths, the key of the kingdom of heaven, our comfort in affliction, our shield and sword against Satan, the school of all wisdom, the glass wherein we behold God's face, the testimony of his favor, and the only food and nourishment of our souls." The Bible is light, key, comfort, shield, sword, school, mirror, testimony, food, nourishment, foundation, and pillar — everything!



These three descriptive phrases together make a compelling picture. As the church, we are family (“household”). And together we are to love as brothers and sisters who share the same heredity. We are “the church [congregation] of the living God.” We come together as multiple temples of the living God, alive in dynamic, quickened community. As the church, we are “the pillar and foundation of the truth.” The truth of God’s Word is the bedrock, mortar, and bricks of our lives.



~ R. Kent Hughes and Bryan Chapell, [*1 & 2 Timothy and Titus: To Guard the Deposit*](#), Preaching the Word (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2000), 92.



WITH GREAT POWER
COMES GREAT RESPONSIBILITY.

In the ancient world, the pillars that supported great temples often contained inscriptions, poems, and sculptures relating the most important events in the lives of generals, heroes or gods. This information would be lasting and would be read by successive generations as long as the pillars stood. Paul uses this metaphor to make it clear that the church, which is God's house, must proclaim God's deeds and the truths about him.



~ Solomon Andria, quoted in Tokunboh Adeyemo, [*Africa Bible Commentary*](#) (Nairobi, Kenya; Grand Rapids, MI: WordAlive Publishers; Zondervan, 2006), 1499.

**How do we live up to this
Great Responsibility?**



The Most POPULAR BOOK OF ALL TIME

Unsurprisingly, the most popular book of all time has an interesting history. With thousands of translations and a two-millennium history, let's take a look at the world's most popular book.

HOW IT STACKS UP

Number of copies printed compared to other famous books

THE BIBLE:

Date of Publication: 1300 BC to 100 AD
Authors: 40 authors over the period of 1300 years
Note: On average 1 author every 40 years.

~2 billion

~100 million

~10 million

~1 million

~100,000

~10,000

~1,000

~100

~10

~1

~20 million copies



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THE BIBLE:

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- The Bible: 6 billion+
- Quotations from Chairman Mao: 800 million+
- The Qur'an: 800 million+
- Xinhua Dictionary: 400 million+
- Le Petit Prince: 200 million+
- A Tale of Two Cities: 200 million+
- The Lord of the Rings: 150 million+
- The Book of Mormon: 120 million+
- Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone: 107 million+
- And Then There Were None: 100 million+
- The Hobbit: 100 million+
- Dream of the Red Chamber: 100 million+
- The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe: 85 million+
- The Da Vinci Code: 80 million+



People of the Book

**How do we live up to this
Great Responsibility?**

By Becoming People of the Book!

**Four Benefits
of
God's Word
in our lives**



Isaiah 55

“¹Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. ²Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare. ³Give ear and come to me; listen, that you may live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful love promised to David.

Isaiah 55

⁴See, I have made him a witness to the peoples, a ruler and commander of the peoples. ⁵Surely you will summon nations you know not, and nations you do not know will come running to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has endowed you with splendor.”

Isaiah 55

⁶Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. ⁷Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

Isaiah 55

⁸“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the LORD. ⁹As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. ¹⁰As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, ¹¹so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

Isaiah 55

¹²You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands. ¹³Instead of the thornbush will grow the juniper, and instead of briers the myrtle will grow. This will be for the LORD's renown, for an everlasting sign, that will endure forever."

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BENEFIT #1 – The certainty of joy and fullness of following God!

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BENEFIT #1 – The certainty of joy and fullness of following God!

BENEFIT #2 – God WILL accomplish His Word!

2 Timothy 3:14-17

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

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BENEFIT #3 – We get exposed to “God’s breathing” upon us to transform our lives

Romans 15:4-7

⁴For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope. ⁵May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, ⁶so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

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BENEFIT #4 – We get endurance and encouragement.
Unity and love are the result!

**Do you have the GUPA
to change?**

**Do you have the GUPA
to change?**

Gospel Reality

Utter dependence on the Holy Spirit

Pathway

Accountability



HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH
IN 2020

The Scientific 7-Minute Workout

BY GRETCHEN REYNOLDS | MAY 9, 2013 12:01 PM | 131



1. Jumping jacks



2. Wall sit



3. Push-up



4. Abdominal stretch



5. Step-up onto chair



6. Squat



7. Triceps dip on chair



8. Plank



9. High knees running in place



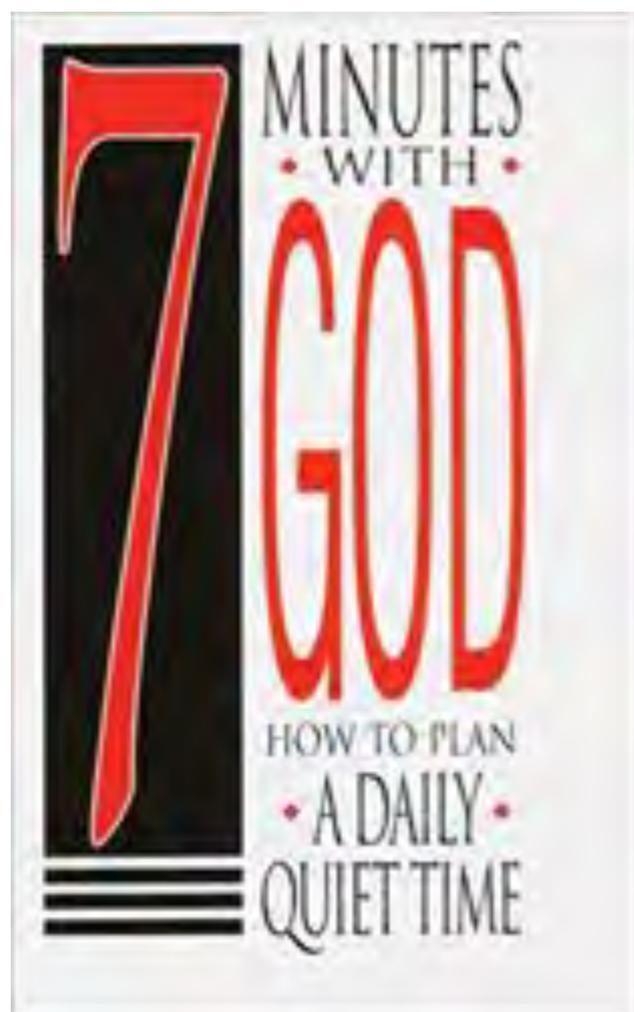
10. Lunge



11. Push-up with rotation



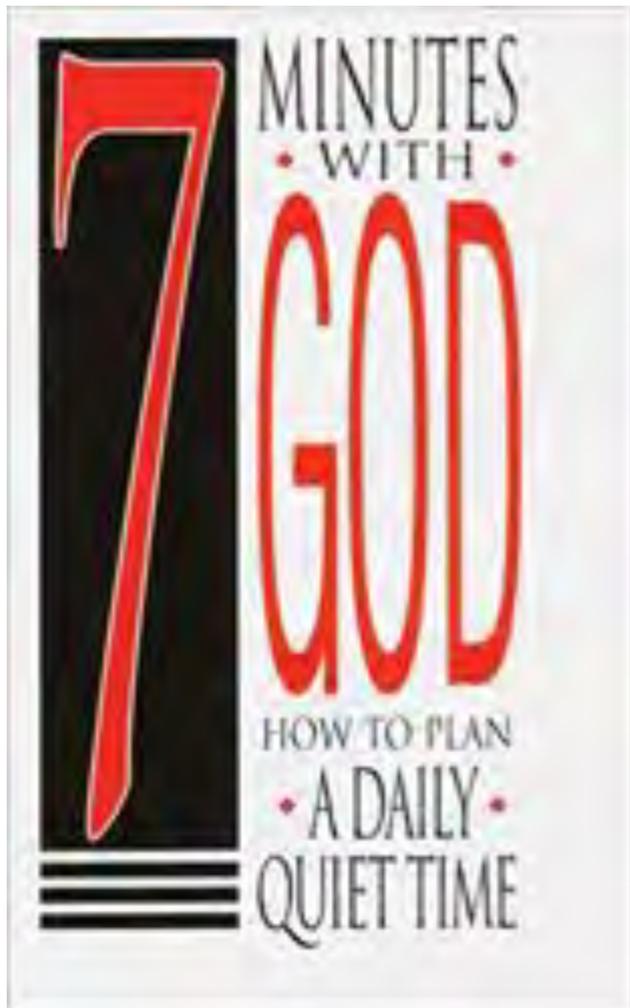
12. Side plank



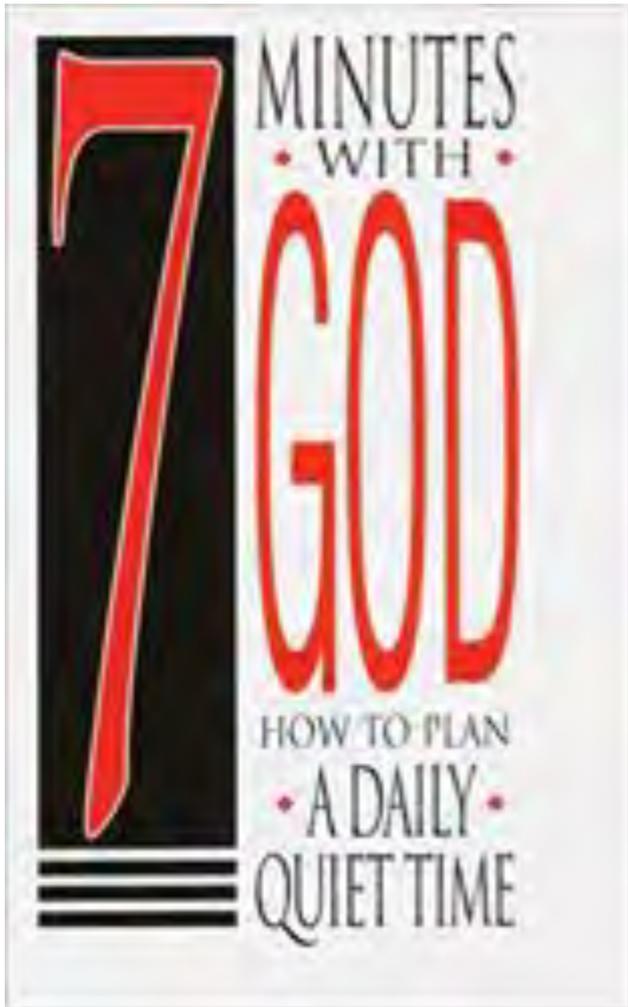
MINUTES
• WITH •

GOD

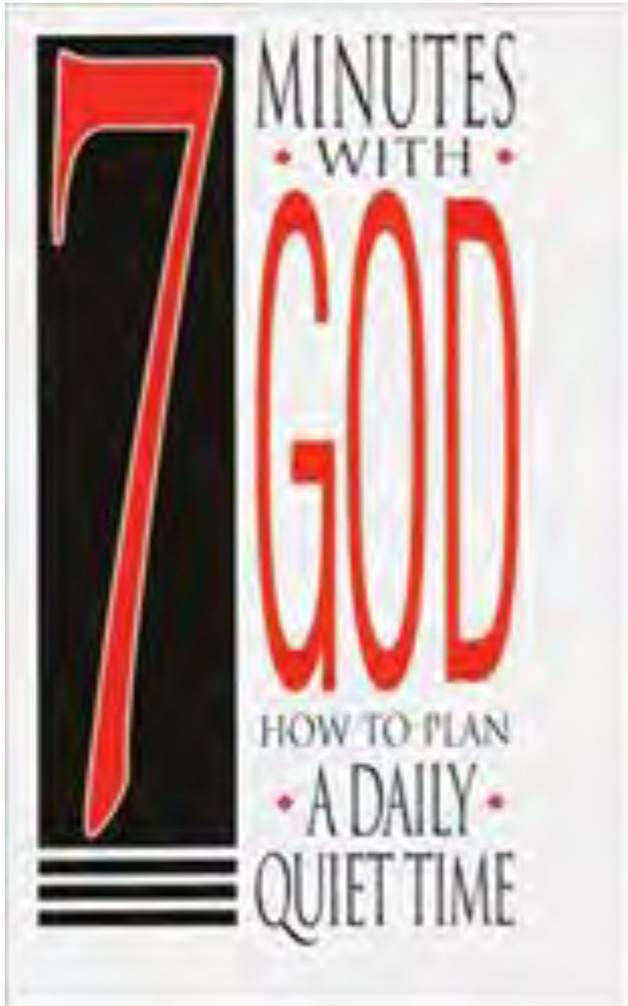
HOW TO PLAN
• A DAILY •
QUIET TIME



Open in prayer, asking for God
to reveal himself



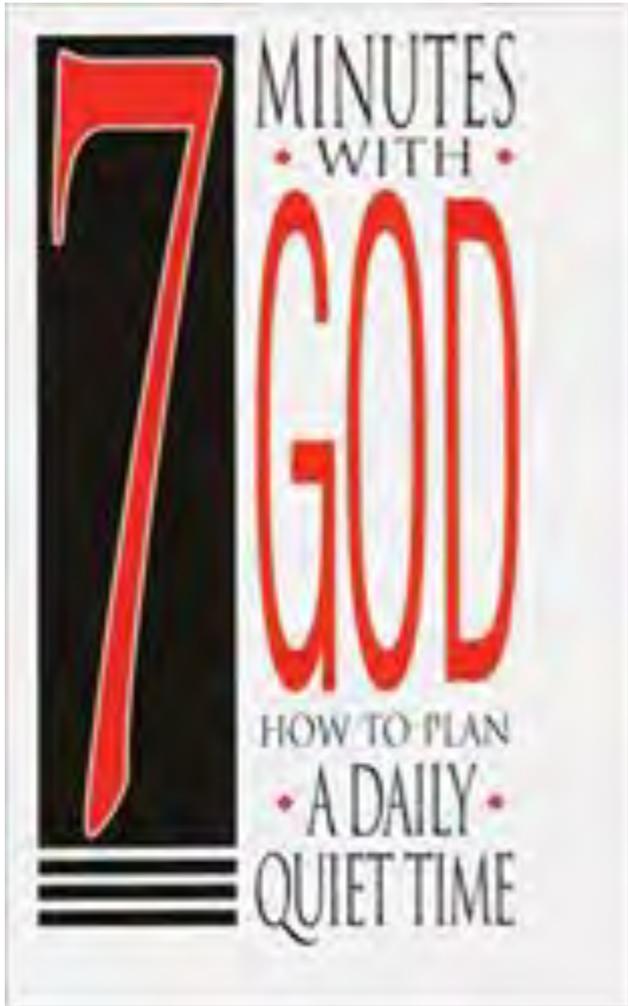
Open in prayer, asking for God
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Read a Psalm



Open in prayer, asking for God
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Read a Psalm

Read a portion of the Gospel of John

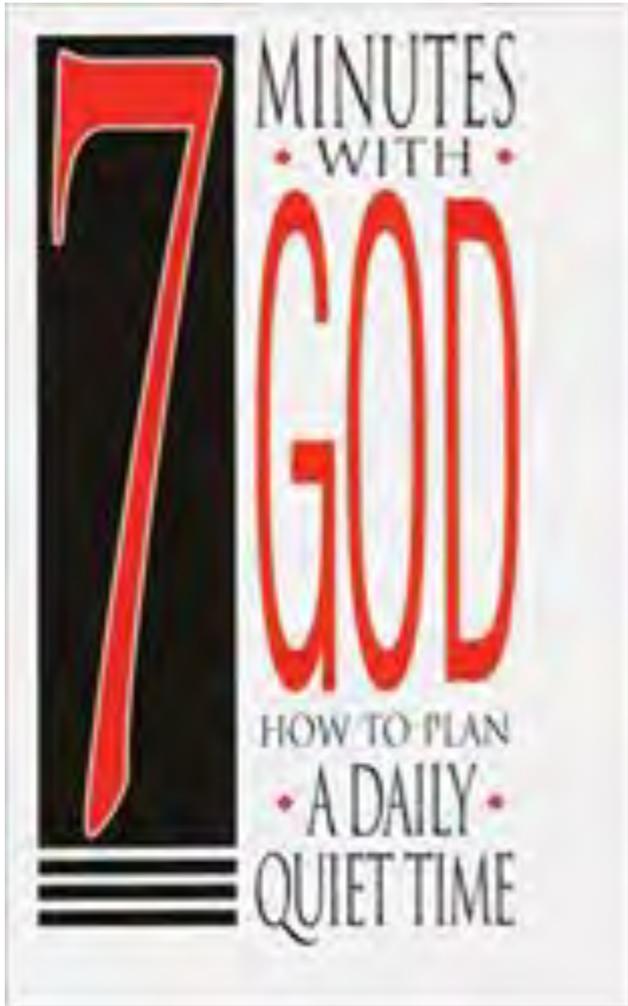


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Read another portion of Scripture



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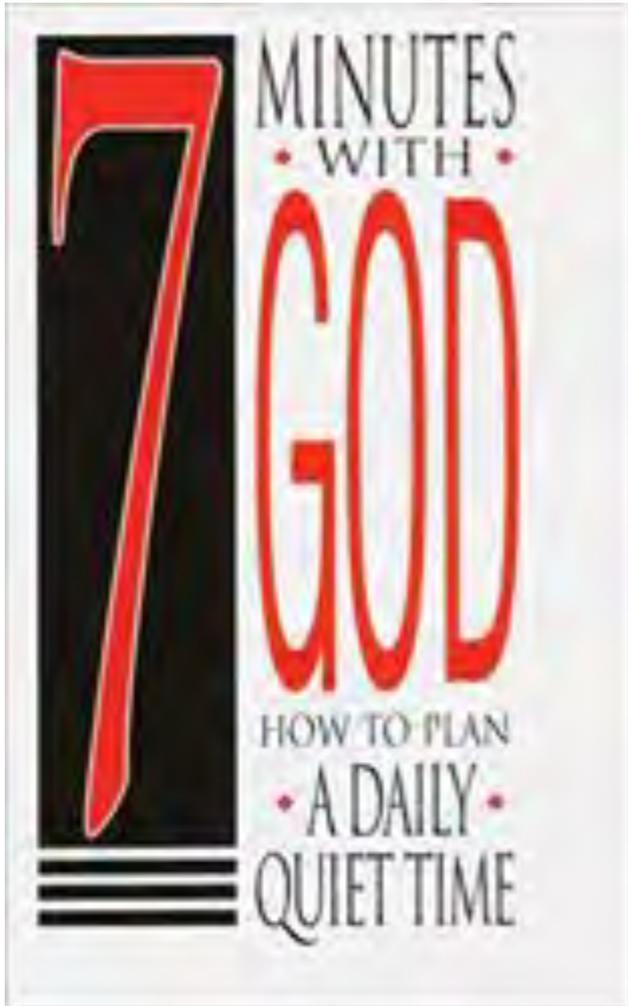
Close in prayer using ACTS

Adoration

Confession

Thanksgiving

Prayer



Open in prayer, asking for God
to reveal himself

Read a Psalm

Read a portion of the Gospel of John

Read another portion of Scripture

Close in prayer using ACTS

Adoration

Confession

Thanksgiving

Prayer

Join the Hope Group! Starts Feb 3!

Gospel Application

Will you become a person of the Book?