

Welcome to my mini tending course

I want to share with you my simple applicable method of getting to know God better through His Word.

I came to know God through reading His word for the 1<sup>st</sup> time when I was 23 years old. At that point I was a self-proclaimed atheist and I lived from a very hopeless place of insecurity and instability. I began reading God's Word when a co-worker handed me a bible and my motive in reading it really was just to disprove it. Well, obviously I was the one disproven as I came face to face with the living God through the pages of Genesis and I surrendered my life to Christ by the time I finished reading it under the council of a dear friend who answered my questions and pointed me to Jesus.

Since then, the pull for me to know God through His word has been dramatic. I know the power in the living word of God and I desire to use my words to point others to know Him through His Word. It WILL change your life.

Several years ago, under the leadership of several great bible teachers, I began unpacking God's word in such a way that was simple and methodical while allowing the Holy Spirit to speak to me daily through His word. I gave this method the acronym TEND, to remind me of the idea of tending my soul with the Word of God as a gardener tends her garden.

So each letter leads me to the next step in unpacking the passage I am in for that day and guides me to find what it is teaching me about God so I might know Him better, since the purpose of Scripture is to better know God. He is not far from us and He desires to be known intimately by you.

So I begin with T which stands for take time to pray.

We must begin with prayer when we approach God's Word since He alone can bring meaning and interpretation for us from His Word. But it takes time to pause and pray and ask Him to speak. Let's take the time to pray. It doesn't have to be eloquent or long or fancy.

*Speak Lord, your servant is listening.* Were the words Samuel said to the Lord and God answered them profoundly and He will for you too.