



## Formation: Read and Listen

**Date:** Sunday 24th March 2019

**Speakers:** Andrew & Rosie McNeil

**Key Verses:** Matthew 4:4

### Talk Summary:

At Big Church, Andrew & Rosie began the Formation series by sharing about the importance of starting your day. They spoke about how we can form daily foundations of our faith by using three simple steps for spending time with God:

Read & Listen

Pray Your Thoughts

Guard Your Heart

This week we are focussing on Read & Listen.

The Big Three booklet resource was given out at Big Church. This is a helpful tool that we hope everyone – no matter if brand new to faith in Jesus, or have been a Christian for 99 years – will use to set a simple daily rhythm of connecting with God. We want to make it as simple as possible for people to spend time with Jesus and that is what this resource is all about. It's not some magical formula, just some simple steps that anyone can use to connect with Jesus and deepen their relationship with Him.

The pdf of the booklet is available at [bvc.so/bigthree](http://bvc.so/bigthree) and there will be paper copies available at church.

### Group Discussion Questions:

- What has been your past experience with spending time with God in a planned way?
- Are there any barriers keeping you from spending daily time with Jesus?

- This weekend Andrew & Rosie talked about Reading and Listening – a daily practice of reading a bit of scripture and asking God what He has for you that day with the scripture. The key steps are READ, LISTEN, PRAY, ACT
- The Navigators have a helpful Bible reading plan to reading scripture (<https://www.navigators.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/navtool-5x5x5.pdf>)– we’ve adapted it a bit to include the four aspects of Read & Listen...let’s practice together
  - o **READ - Choose** a passage of scripture (1 or 2 chapters max).
    - **Underline or highlight** key words or phrases in the Bible passage. Use a pen or highlighter to mark new discoveries from the text. Periodically review your markings to see what God is teaching you.
    - **Put it into your own words.** Read the passage or verse slowly, then rewrite each phrase or sentence using your own words.
  - o **LISTEN - Ask and answer** some questions. Questions unlock new discoveries and meanings. Ask questions about the passage using these words: who, what, why, when, where, or how. Jot down some thoughts on how you would answer these questions.
    - Capture the **big idea**. God’s Word communicates big ideas. Periodically ask, What’s the big idea in this sentence, paragraph, or chapter?
  - o **PRAY** – Thank Jesus for revealing Himself through scripture. Invite Him to speak to you now, as you read and listen.
  - o **ACT** - Personalize the **meaning**. When God speaks to us through the Scriptures, we must respond. A helpful habit is personalizing the Bible through application.
    - **Ask:** How could my life be different today as I respond to what I’m reading? How might I act differently today because of what I read?

(For the complete Navigators Bible reading plan, go to <https://www.navigators.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/navtool-5x5x5.pdf>)

### **To ponder or pray about this week:**

Practice using the Big Three booklet!

Pray and ask God to give you grace and draw you deeper into relationship with Him as you practice The Big Three this week. Pray for your relationships with others, that as you press into spending a few more minutes with God each day, that it would impact your connections with others.