

# The SORT Method

The SORT Method is a way to devotionally read scripture with a gospel-centered perspective and then process what you learned with a small group of others reading the same passage.

## Step One

Read the same passage of Scripture that every other person in your group is reading for the week (eg. Colossians Chapter 1 every day for a week.)

The logo for Cru. is a black square with the word "Cru." written in a white, serif font.

## Step Two

Each time you read the passage, ask God to show you which portion of the passage He wants you to focus on or "sort out". It could take several days of reading to decide which portion to focus on, or that portion might become apparent the first time you read the passage.

## Step Three

Once you decide which portion to focus on, spend the remaining devotional times to work through the acronym SORT for that portion of the passage (see next page) and write down what you learn.

## Step Four

Meet as a group (perhaps for coffee or lunch) to share what you wrote down as you worked through SORT for the portion of the passage you chose to focus on.

### S: Scripture

Write down the part of the passage that speaks to you and that you want to focus on. This is the part that really captures your attention as you read it, especially as you read the passage several times. When it becomes clear which passage you want to focus on, write down the verse and the reference.

### O: Observations

Next, think about and write down what you observe about your life, current circumstances, concerns, growth areas, etc. that these verses reveal, especially in regards to your brokenness and/or the brokenness of the world around you. In essence, you are answering the following question: "What does this passage reveal about my spiritual brokenness that requires the redemptive work of Christ?"

### R: Redemptive Work of Christ

This step is the application part of the method. But instead of thinking about what you need to do to fix yourself and then resolving to do it, we each need to see how the passage points us to Christ, and consider what Christ needs to do in and through our lives to bring healing and transformation to the broken areas the passage revealed. And then we need to consider how we can cooperate with Christ to bring about the work He wants to do. In essence, you are answering the following questions: "How does this passage point me to Christ?", "What is the Christ-solution for the brokenness this passage reveals?" "How can I cooperate with Christ to bring about the healing and transformation He has for me?" Note: you may have to consider the broader passage (not just the verses you wrote down in S--Scripture) to fully answer the questions in this step.

### T: Telling Others

Finally, what about this passage and its impact on your life could you tell another person, especially one who might not yet know Christ? As followers of Christ, we get to tell others about Christ and His work in our lives. In this step, consider and write down one thing that you could share about the brokenness the passage reveals and/or the Christ-solution the passage offers for the brokenness. AND consider how you would talk about that with someone who might not yet know Christ in a way they would understand it. This is not necessarily a statement or advice giving. It could be the sharing of a story, or asking for their opinion/thoughts, or asking them about their life/experience, etc.