BIBIE READING PLANS

Because it matters what you read...

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All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. - 2 Timothy 3.16-17

One of the most important parts of your relationship with Christ is spending time in his Word.

This booklet is designed to encourage and help you to read the Bible regularly. It offers three different plans, or reading schedules, from which you can choose.

Begin by choosing the plan that is right for you:

Plan # 1 – Read Four Parts Each Day

This plan provides four Bible readings each day – one from the Old Testament, one from Psalms and Proverbs, one from the Gospels and one from the rest of the New Testament.

Plan # 2 – From Beginning To End

This plan begins with Genesis 1 at the beginning of January and goes straight through the Bible to Revelation 22 by the end of December.

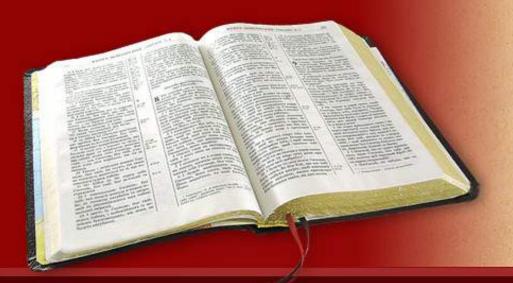
Plan # 3 – Coordinated Readings

This plan coordinates many events written about in different books of the Bible. These passages are listed together so you read about them at the same time. When you read of certain events in the life of King David, for example, you will read from Kings and Chronicles as well as the book of Psalms.

How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word. I seek you with all my heart;

do not let me stray from your commands. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. — Psalm 119.9-11

Hopefully this tool will enable you to become more consistent in spending time in God's Word. Enjoy reading your Bible!



Be A Consistent Bible Reader

You may wonder how you could read the Bible regularly for yourself. Here are some tips for building a consistent Bible reading practice.

- Using a reading plan may help. It frees you from deciding where to begin reading each time and ensures a broad selection of texts over time. The three reading plans in this booklet are only a few of the many kinds of reading plans available.
- Find a Bible version that you like to read or that is easy to understand.
- Select the type of Bible that you will look forward to picking up each time. This will make it easier for you to continue to read consistently. You may want a study Bible with notes and maps for clarity, or a travel Bible that you can easily carry with you. Some people may prefer a large-print Bible without many additional features.
- Choose a regular time for your reading. For example, set a specific hour of the day or a certain day of the week for your reading. You will soon come to anticipate your reading time.
- Set a length of time that you will read, especially if you are not using a reading plan that has already broken the text into manageable sections.
- Read in the same place each time, at least while you are getting started (at the kitchen table, on the couch, in bed, or whatever works for you).

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- You may find that it helpful to begin and/or end your reading with a brief prayer, asking God to help you understand and apply what you read.
- If you are interested in journaling, why not combine your reading with writing? You might read, then write in response to what you have read. Or write first, read the biblical text, and write a brief reaction.
- Find a partner who shares your interest to check in with you about your reading. This holds you accountable.
- Finally, reward yourself in healthy ways for consistent reading (a walk, a trip to the library, a visit or phone call to a friend). Give yourself a pat on the back for accomplishing what you have set out to do.

Additional Resources

Since God did not create all of us the same, that means not all of us will find the tools in this booklet helpful. Here are a few more resources online that you may want to check out. One of them may be more to your taste. But no matter which tool you use, the point is to continually dig deeper into God's Word.

Bible Reading Web Sites

- www.biblegateway.com. This site supplies the on-screen text of several different Bible reading plans.
- www.challies.com/christian-living/ten-chapters-per-day. Tim Challies describes Professor Grant Horner's Bible-Reading System. This is a great opportunity for intense exposure to God's Word.
- www.biblestudytools.com. This site features the text of over thirty Bible versions.
- www.youversion.com. This site offers an incredible interactive Bible study application for reading and studying. YouVersion also has a revolutionary app for your mobile device.
 - www.backtothebible.org. This site provides several different Bible reading schedules (chronological, historical, Old and New Testament together, beginning to end, and blended).
- www.heartlight.org. This site offers five different Bible reading schedules.
- www.navigators.org/resource/bible-reading-plans. This site offers three downloadable Bible reading plans, and lots of Bible studies you can purchase.
- www.blueletterbible.org. This site features a daily Bible readings right on the screen, as well as many Bible study tools and resources.
- www.mybibleplans.com. This site uses the ESV and offers a completely customizable Bible reading plan based on how much you want to read each day.

Other Online Bible Reading Guides & Resources

- American Bible Society (www.americanbible.org)
- Bible Reading Planner (www.biblequizzes.com)
- Daily Bible (www.dailybible.com)
- Zondervan Bible Publishers (www.zondervan.com)

