Dr. Jonathan Carl

Week by Week Bible Reading

5 to 30 Minute Bible Reading Plans to Help You Hear God's Voice

Week by Week Bible Reading

5 to 30 Minute Bible Reading Plans to Help You Hear God's Voice Plus Bible Study Helps & Resources

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Downloadable resources and helpful study & Bible reading videos freely available at:

www.TrustworthyWord.com and www.Bible.video

I am so thankful to God for His free gift of salvation in Jesus as revealed in the Bible!

"Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching." - 1 Timothy 4:13

I love and am so grateful for my amazing wife Brittney and her loving, tireless support. Together we are blessed with some amazing daughters in Sophia, Lydia, Alia, and Mia! Our church family at South Fork has been incredible in their encouragement:) Thank you all for putting up with my many hours of studying & writing for this work!

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How to Use this Book

This book is the formulation of years of guiding myself and my church family through Bible reading. It is a simple but helpful tool to help with the discipline of drawing near to God through regular Bible reading and listening.

5-30 Minute Plans

How much time would you like to spend reading or listening to the Bible each day? Whether you would like to read Psalms/Proverbs, the New Testament, the Old Testament, or the whole Bible there is a plan to carry you through the year.

This could be a 1, 2, or 3 year plan for you to read the Bible. You might want to start off with a 5 minute-perday commitment one year (Psalms & Proverbs), before progressing to a 10 (New Testament) or 15 (Old Testament) minute-per-day goal. Or maybe you have always wanted to read through the entire Bible in 52 weeks, you could start this any time of year, but will want to prepare for at least 30 minutes of Bible reading or listening each day.

Since this reading plan is outlined as a "weekly" plan instead of a "daily" plan, you might find that you spend more time on the weekends reading and then use the past readings for journaling, reflecting, and praying on the weekdays. Or you may prefer to do your reading on

weekdays and keep the weekends as a "catch up" time for anything you missed.

Regardless of the specific plans you make, I am proud of you for taking this significant step. May you enjoy your weekly encounters with your Lord through His Word!

Questions to Consider

Good questions help us to learn and apply what God is wanting to say to us each day. Generic questions are listed next that you might find helpful for your personal devotional time or to use for discussion in a Sunday School class or small group. These questions are generalized towards helping your Bible understanding. Other more specific and applicational questions are freely available on www.Bible.video and at the resources below. May we not merely be hearers of the Word, but lovers and doers of God's voice as well!

One of the best resources to consult for short, biblical answers to the most common questions of life is www.GotQuestions.org – check it out sometime, you'll be glad that you did!

If you are looking for some additional resources for questions for your small group, Sunday School class, or for personal use, here are some suggestions:

- Serendipity Bible: For Personal and Small Group Study – edited by Lyman Coleman
- The One Year Bible Companion by Tyndale House Publishers
- The Complete Bible Discussion Guide: Group Discussion Questions for Every Chapter in the Bible – by Mack Thomas
- 3 Questions on Every Chapter in the Bible by Ed Roop

General Discussion Questions

These generalized questions will help you to think through, pray through, and apply the truths that you are reading. As you begin this journey, consider how these questions might help you grow closer to Jesus through journaling, prayer, and Sunday school class or small group discussions.

- *Context Questions:* Who is writing this? Who is it being written to? When? Why? What type of writing is this? How does this matter to my understanding of the meaning of these chapters?
- What was something new you noticed this week? What impacted you the most? Why?
- What can you learn about God from these passages? His work? His character? How can this help you grow in your trust of Him?
- What did you learn about humanity or yourself in the readings this week? About your identity, character or purpose as a Christ-follower?
- What do these passages teach us about our enemies' attacks (deceptions, distractions, discouragement, and temptations)? How can we better resist these attacks?
- Application Questions: How do you need to respond to and apply these truths to your life? (Is there a sin to avoid? A command to obey? An example to follow? A prayer to offer? A truth to remember or memorize? An attitude to change? A teaching to share?)

The Good News of Jesus is important for Christians to daily remember about our identity in Christ and for our gratitude towards God. Through these verses we can more fully enjoy the goodness of God & prepare ourselves for Gospel-sharing opportunities! We've included some of the most important verses for evangelism and for finding daily victory in the most common struggles of life. You can find the complete listing of verses here:

"What Bible Verses Are Good to Memorize for Evangelism?" - www.trustworthyword.com/what-bible-verses-are-good-to-memorize-for-evangelism

"What Bible Verses Are Good for Christians to Memorize? The 40 Most Important Verses Every Christian Should Know" - www.trustworthyword.com/what-bible-verses-are-good-for-christians-to-memorize

"in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect" 1 Peter 3:15 (ESV)

Resources

In the back of the book (and linked below) are resources you might find helpful for yourself or to help others. In it you'll find Bible study tips as well as some of the best digital and print resources available today.

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"Top Children's Bibles" – www.trustworthyword.com/childrens-bibles
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"Top One Year Bibles" – www.trustworthyword.com/one-year-bibles

"How Can I Be Sure I'm a Christian?" - www.trustworthyword.com/how-can-i-be-sure-im-a-christian

"How Can I Become a Christian?" - www.trustworthyword.com/how-can-i-become-a-christian

"Evidence for Jesus" - www.trustworthyword.com/evidence-for-jesus

"How to Study Your Bible" - www.trustworthyword.com/how-to-study-the-bible

"10 Bible Study Tips" – www.trustworthyword.com/bible-study-tips

www.Bible.video - "The Video Bible"

"Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching." - 1 Timothy 4:13

Did someone read to you growing up? Did that time impact you? Help you? Grow you? Comfort you?

We feel that reading the Bible visually and audibly to one another is important and helpful too! What a joy it is to see print Bibles reaching the ends of the earth (through amazing groups like the <u>Gideons</u> and <u>The International Bible Society</u> and especially <u>www.NetBible.com</u>). How incredible it is that translations are made (<u>Wycliffe</u>) and digitally distributed (<u>Bible.com</u> and <u>BibleStudyTools.com</u>) all over the world! In the past few decades, audio Bibles have also become numerous and more accessible through wonderful ministries like <u>Faith Comes By Hearing</u>.

Unfortunately there isn't much of a presence currently of someone visually reading the Bible to another. We hope to help provide this through the "The Video Bible"! We feel this is a needed resource for evangelism and discipleship and we pray that it will be extremely effective! The biblical origins of both visually watching someone read and listening simultaneously is important to how we process and respond to the Word. We hope to have the opportunity to help get complete bible translations free into the ears, eyes, minds, and souls of millions more over the years ahead via video.

www.TrustworthyWord.com

Titus 1:9 "He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it." (ESV)

Trustworthy Word was born out of a desire to equip churches with free, downloadable handouts as a resource for biblical teaching on various topics. We wanted to see the people of God think deeply about the Word of God and realize the implications that come about as a result.

One of the great things that we have seen happen though is that members of our church (South Fork Baptist Church in Hodgenville, KY) have begun to use the site as a mobile resource when they are sharing the gospel or having bible-centered conversations. Trustworthy Word has become a digital filing cabinet where with a few taps of the finger, we can quickly locate helpful resources both for our own spiritual growth and to engage those with whom we are having Christ focused conversations. Our hope is that you too will find Trustworthy Word as a digital discipleship and evangelism resource you can utilize in moments when you have your phone, tablet, or computer with you. You may enjoy using some of the free handouts to help guide your small group into a deeper walk with Jesus in Bible study. With just a few clicks we hope you begin to think deeply about the Word of God and see how that impacts your life.

"The Bible was not given for our information but for our transformation.

... Read the Bible, read the Bible!
Let no religious book take its place.
Through all my perplexities and distresses,
I seldom read any other book,
and I as rarely felt the want of any other."

Dwight I wan Moody

~ Dwight Lyman Moody

"Come back to the Bible. Begin to read it. Study it and God will speak to you and change you." ~ Billy Graham

"It takes a whole Bible to make a whole Christian." ~ Alistair Begg

"The vigor of our spiritual life will be in exact proportion to the place held by the Bible in our life and thoughts." ~ George Mueller

"Half our fears arise from neglect of the Bible." ~ Charles H. Spurgeon

Week 0 – Questions to Consider

Before you begin this journey of Bible reading, it might be helpful to consider some of these questions:

- Why are you using this Bible reading plan? What is your hope for this journey ahead?
- Where have you failed or struggled before in Bible reading or Bible listening? What did you learn from those experiences?
- How have you experienced the most success in your time in the Word? How do you hope to continue and build on those successes?
- Who might be a helpful encourager or someone to hold you accountable during this season of study?
 Who might you help in their discipline of Bible reading/listening?
- What tools have been helpful to you?
- When is the best time of day for you to study the Bible and pray? When do you encounter the most distractions or obstacles? How can you best prepare and plan now to overcome the challenges ahead?
- What is a practical step you might take to better remember to not miss your daily time with Jesus?
- How might you better help lead and encourage your children and family into more time in the Word?
 Where have you struggled with this before? When have you had success in this before?

Week 1 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 1

Psalm 2

Psalm 3

Proverbs 1:1-16

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Matthew 1

Matthew 2

Luke 1

Luke 2

John 1

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Genesis 1	Genesis 9
Genesis 2	Genesis 10
Genesis 3	Genesis 11
Genesis 4	Genesis 12
Genesis 5	Genesis 13
Genesis 6	Genesis 14
Genesis 7	Genesis 15
Genesis 8	

"The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork." Psalms 19:1 (ESV)

Week 2 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 4

Psalm 5

Psalm 6

Proverbs 1:17-33

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Matthew 3

Matthew 4

Mark 1

Luke 3

Luke 4

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Genesis 16	Genesis 24
Genesis 17	Genesis 25
Genesis 18	Genesis 26
Genesis 19	Genesis 27
Genesis 20	Genesis 28
Genesis 21	Genesis 29
Genesis 22	Genesis 30

30 Minutes - The Whole Bible (read all above)

Genesis 23

"You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy." Leviticus 19:2 (ESV)

Week 3 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 7

Psalm 8

Psalm 9

Proverbs 2

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Mark 2

John2

John 3

John 4

John 5

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

to minutes i ei buj	Old I cottille
Genesis 31	Genesis 39
Genesis 32	Genesis 40
Genesis 33	Genesis 41
Genesis 34	Genesis 42
Genesis 35	Genesis 43
Genesis 36	Genesis 44
Genesis 37	Genesis 45
Genesis 38	

"Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created." Revelation 4:11 (ESV)

Week 4 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 10

Psalm 11

Psalm 12

Proverbs 3:1-18

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Mark 3

Luke 5

Luke 6

Matthew 5

Matthew 6

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Genesis 46	Job 4
Genesis 47	Job 5
Genesis 48	Job 6
Genesis 49	Job 7
Genesis 50	Job 8
Job 1	Job 9
Job 2	Job 10
Job 3	

"And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." Mark 12:30 (ESV)

Week 5 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 13

Psalm 14

Psalm 15

Proverbs 3:19-35

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Matthew 7

Matthew 8

Luke 7

Luke 8

Matthew 11

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Job 11	Job 19
Job 12	Job 20
Job 13	Job 21
Job 14	Job 22
Job 15	Job 23
Job 16	Job 24
Job 17	Job 25
Job 18	

"Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me." Psalm 51:5 (ESV)

Week 6 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 16

Psalm 17

Psalm 18

Proverbs 4

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Matthew 9

Matthew 12

Matthew 13

Mark 4

Mark 5

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Job 26	Job 34
Job 27	Job 35
Job 28	Job 36
Job 29	Job 37
Job 30	Job 38
Job 31	Job 39
Job 32	Job 40
Job 33	

"Your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear." Isaiah 59:2 (ESV)

Week 7 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 19

Psalm 20

Psalm 21

Proverbs 5

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Matthew 10

Matthew 14

Mark 6

Luke 9

John 6

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Job 41	Exodus 7
Job 42	Exodus 8
Exodus 1	Exodus 9
Exodus 2	Exodus 10
Exodus 3	Exodus 11
Exodus 4	Exodus 12
Exodus 5	Exodus 13
Exodus 6	

"None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one."

Romans 3:10-12 (ESV)

Week 8 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 22

Psalm 23

Psalm 24

Proverbs 6:1-19

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Matthew 15

Matthew 16

Matthew 17

Mark 7

Mark 8

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Exodus 14	Exodus 22
Exodus 15	Exodus 23
Exodus 16	Exodus 24
Exodus 17	Exodus 25
Exodus 18	Exodus 26
Exodus 19	Exodus 27
Exodus 20	Exodus 28
Exodus 21	

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23 (ESV)

Week 9 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 25

Psalm 26

Psalm 27

Proverbs 6:1:20-35

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Matthew 18

Mark 9

John 7

John 8

John 9

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

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Exodus 29	Exodus 37
Exodus 30	Exodus 38
Exodus 31	Exodus 39
Exodus 32	Exodus 40
Exodus 33	Leviticus 1
Exodus 34	Leviticus 2
Exodus 35	Leviticus 3
Exodus 36	

"Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God."

Romans 3:19 (ESV)

Week 10 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 28

Psalm 29

Psalm 30

Proverbs 7

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Luke 10

Luke 11

Luke 12

Luke 13

John 10

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Leviticus 4	Leviticus 12
Leviticus 5	Leviticus 13
Leviticus 6	Leviticus 14
Leviticus 7	Leviticus 15
Leviticus 8	Leviticus 16
Leviticus 9	Leviticus 17
Leviticus 10	Leviticus 18

Leviticus 11

"everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart." Matthew 5:28 (ESV)

Week 11 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 31

Psalm 32

Psalm 33

Proverbs 8:1-21

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Luke 14

Luke 15

Luke 16

Luke 17

John 11

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Leviticus 19	Leviticus 27
Leviticus 20	Numbers 1
Leviticus 21	Numbers 2
Leviticus 22	Numbers 3
Leviticus 23	Numbers 4
Leviticus 24	Numbers 5
Leviticus 25	Numbers 6
Leviticus 26	

"Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him." 1 John 3:15 (ESV)

Week 12 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 34

Psalm 35

Psalm 36

Proverbs 8:22-36

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Matthew 19

Matthew 20

Mark 10

Luke 18

Luke 19

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Numbers 7	Numbers 15
Numbers 8	Numbers 16
Numbers 9	Numbers 17
Numbers 10	Numbers 18
Numbers 11	Numbers 19
Numbers 12	Numbers 20
Numbers 13	Numbers 21
Numbers 14	

"For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it."

James 2:10 (ESV)

Week 13 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 37

Psalm 38

Psalm 39

Proverbs 9

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Matthew 21

Matthew 22

Mark 11

Mark 12

Luke 20

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Numbers 22	Numbers 30
Numbers 23	Numbers 31
Numbers 24	Numbers 32
Numbers 25	Numbers 33
Numbers 26	Numbers 34
Numbers 27	Numbers 35
Numbers 28	Numbers 36
Numbers 29	

"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Romans 6:23 (ESV)

Week 14 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 40

Psalm 41

Psalm 42

Proverbs 10:1-16

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Matthew 23

Matthew 24

Mark 13

Luke 21

John 12

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Deuteronomy 1	Deuteronomy 9
Deuteronomy 2	Deuteronomy 10
Deuteronomy 3	Deuteronomy 11
Deuteronomy 4	Deuteronomy 12
Deuteronomy 5	Deuteronomy 13
Deuteronomy 6	Deuteronomy 14
Deuteronomy 7	Deuteronomy 15
Deuteronomy 8	-

"And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment." Hebrews 9:27 (ESV)

Week 15 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 43

Psalm 44

Psalm 45

Proverbs 10:17-32

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Matthew 25

Matthew 26

Mark 14

Luke 22

John 13

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Deuteronomy 16	Deuteronomy 24
Deuteronomy 17	Deuteronomy 25
Deuteronomy 18	Deuteronomy 26
Deuteronomy 19	Deuteronomy 27
Deuteronomy 20	Deuteronomy 28
Deuteronomy 21	Deuteronomy 29
Deuteronomy 22	Deuteronomy 30
Deuteronomy 23	

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16 (ESV)

Week 16 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 46

Psalm 47

Psalm 48

Proverbs 11:1-15

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

John 14

John 15

John 16

John 17

John 18

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Deuteronomy 31	Joshua 5
Deuteronomy 32	Joshua 6
Deuteronomy 33	Joshua 7
Deuteronomy 34	Joshua 8
Joshua 1	Joshua 9
Joshua 2	Joshua 10
Joshua 3	Joshua 11
Joshua 4	

"Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him." John 3:36 (ESV)

Week 17 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 49

Psalm 50

Psalm 51

Proverbs 11:16-31

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Matthew 27

Matthew 28

Mark 15

Luke 23

John 19

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Joshua 12	Joshua 20
Joshua 13	Joshua 21
Joshua 14	Joshua 22
Joshua 15	Joshua 23
Joshua 16	Joshua 24
Joshua 17	Judges 1
Joshua 18	Judges 2
Joshua 19	

"In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins." 1 John 4:10 (ESV)

Week 18 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 52

Psalm 53

Psalm 54

Proverbs 12:1-14

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Mark 16

Luke 24

John 20

John 21

Acts 1

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Judges 3	Judges 11
Judges 4	Judges 12
Judges 5	Judges 13
Judges 6	Judges 14
Judges 7	Judges 15
Judges 8	Judges 16
Judges 9	Judges 17
Judges 10	

"but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8 (ESV)

Week 19 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 55

Psalm 56

Psalm 57

Proverbs 12:15-28

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Acts 2

Acts 3

Acts 4

Acts 5

Acts 6

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Judges 18	1 Samuel 1
Judges 19	1 Samuel 2
Judges 20	1 Samuel 3
Judges 21	1 Samuel 4
Ruth 1	1 Samuel 5
Ruth 2	1 Samuel 6
Ruth 3	1 Samuel 7
Ruth 4	

"But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed." Isaiah 53:5 (ESV)

Week 20 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 58

Psalm 59

Psalm 60

Proverbs 13

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Acts 7

Acts 8

Acts 9

Acts 10

Acts 11

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

1 Samuel 8	1 Samuel 16
1 Samuel 9	1 Samuel 17
1 Samuel 10	1 Samuel 18
1 Samuel 11	1 Samuel 19
1 Samuel 12	1 Samuel 20
1 Samuel 13	1 Samuel 21
1 Samuel 14	1 Samuel 22
1 Samuel 15	

"For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." 2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV)

Week 21 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 61

Psalm 62

Psalm 63

Proverbs 14:1-17

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Acts 12

Acts 13

Acts 14

Acts 15

Acts 16

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

1 Samuel 23	1 Samuel 31
1 Samuel 24	1 Chronicles 10
1 Samuel 25	2 Samuel 1
1 Samuel 26	2 Samuel 2
1 Samuel 27	2 Samuel 3
1 Samuel 28	2 Samuel 4
1 Samuel 29	1 Chronicles 1
1 Samuel 30	

"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:3 (ESV)

Week 22 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 64

Psalm 65

Psalm 66

Proverbs 14:18-35

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Acts 17

Acts 18

Acts 19

Acts 20

Acts 21

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

TO IVIIII GEES I OF Day	Old I cottilicit
1 Chronicles 2	2 Samuel 5
1 Chronicles 3	2 Samuel 6
1 Chronicles 4	1 Chronicles 11
1 Chronicles 5	1 Chronicles 12
1 Chronicles 6	1 Chronicles 13
1 Chronicles 7	1 Chronicles 14
1 Chronicles 8	1 Chronicles 15
1 Chronicles 9	

"But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." John 1:12 (ESV)

Week 23 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 67

Psalm 68

Psalm 69

Proverbs 15:1-15

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Acts 22

Acts 23

Acts 24

Acts 25

Acts 26

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

1 Chronicles 16	2 Samuel 10
1 Chronicles 17	2 Samuel 11
1 Chronicles 18	2 Samuel 12
1 Chronicles 19	2 Samuel 13
1 Chronicles 20	2 Samuel 14
2 Samuel 7	2 Samuel 15
2 Samuel 8	2 Samuel 16
2 Samuel 9	

"if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." Romans 10:9 (ESV)

Week 24 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 70

Psalm 71

Psalm 72

Proverbs 15:16-33

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Acts 27

Acts 28

Romans 1

Romans 2

Romans 3

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

2 Samuel 17	1 Chronicles 21
2 Samuel 18	1 Chronicles 22
2 Samuel 19	1 Chronicles 23
2 Samuel 20	1 Chronicles 24
2 Samuel 21	1 Chronicles 25
2 Samuel 22	1 Chronicles 26
2 Samuel 23	1 Chronicles 27
2 Samuel 24	

"everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Romans 10:13 (ESV)

Week 25 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 73

Psalm 74

Psalm 75

Proverbs 16:1-16

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Romans 4

Romans 5

Romans 6

Romans 7

Romans 8

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

1 Chronicles 28	Song of Solomon 2
1 Chronicles 29	Song of Solomon 3
1 Kings 1	Song of Solomon 4
1 Kings 2	Song of Solomon 5
1 Kings 3	Song of Solomon 6
1 Kings 4	Song of Solomon 7
2 Chronicles 1	Song of Solomon 8
Song of Solomon 1	

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28 (ESV)

Week 26 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 76 Psalm 77 Proverbs 16:17-33

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Romans 9 Romans 10 Romans 11 Romans 12 Romans 13

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

0101 1 0000011101110
1 Kings 6
1 Kings 7
1 Kings 8
1 Kings 9
Ecclesiastes 1
Ecclesiastes 2
Ecclesiastes 3

"I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6 (ESV)

Week 27 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 78

Psalm 79

Psalm 80

Proverbs 17:1-14

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Romans 14

Romans 15

Romans 16

1 Corinthians 1

1 Corinthians 2

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Ecclesiastes 4	Ecclesiastes 12
Ecclesiastes 5	2 Chronicles 9
Ecclesiastes 6	2 Chronicles 10
Ecclesiastes 7	2 Chronicles 11
Ecclesiastes 8	1 Kings 10
Ecclesiastes 9	1 Kings 11
Ecclesiastes 10	1 Kings 12
Ecclesiastes 11	

"And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Acts 4:12 (ESV)

Week 28 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 81

Psalm 82

Psalm 83

Proverbs 17:15-28

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

1 Corinthians 3

1 Corinthians 4

1 Corinthians 5

1 Corinthians 6

1 Corinthians 7

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

1 Kings 15
1 Kings 16
1 Kings 17
1 Kings 18
1 Kings 19
1 Kings 20
1 Kings 21

"No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also." 1 John 2:23 (ESV)

Week 29 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 84 Psalm 85

Psalm 86

Proverbs 18

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

1 Corinthians 8

1 Corinthians 9

1 Corinthians 10

1 Corinthians 11

1 Corinthians 12

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

2 Chronicles 18	2 Kings 2
2 Chronicles 19	2 Kings 3
2 Chronicles 20	2 Kings 4
2 Chronicles 21	2 Kings 5
2 Chronicles 22	2 Kings 6
2 Chronicles 23	2 Kings 7
1 Kings 22	2 Kings 8
2 Kings 1	

"No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish." Luke 13:3 (ESV)

Week 30 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 87

Psalm 88

Psalm 89

Proverbs 19:1-13

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

1 Corinthians 13

1 Corinthians 14

1 Corinthians 15

1 Corinthians 16

2 Corinthians 1

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

2 Chronicles 24	2 Kings 13
2 Chronicles 25	2 Kings 14
2 Chronicles 26	2 Kings 15
2 Chronicles 27	Jonah 1
2 Kings 9	Jonah 2
2 Kings 10	Jonah 3
2 Kings 11	Jonah 4
2 Kings 12	

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9 (ESV)

Week 31 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 90

Psalm 91

Psalm 92

Proverbs 19:14-29

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

2 Corinthians 2

2 Corinthians 3

2 Corinthians 4

2 Corinthians 5

2 Corinthians 6

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Amos 1	Amos 9
Amos 2	Hosea 1
Amos 3	Hosea 2
Amos 4	Hosea 3
Amos 5	Hosea 4
Amos 6	Hosea 5
Amos 7	Hosea 6
Amos 8	

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me." Revelation 3:20 (ESV)

Week 32 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 93

Psalm 94

Psalm 95

Proverbs 20:1-15

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

2 Corinthians 7

2 Corinthians 8

2 Corinthians 9

2 Corinthians 10

2 Corinthians 11

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Hosea 7	Isaiah 1
Hosea 8	Isaiah 2
Hosea 9	Isaiah 3
Hosea 10	Isaiah 4
Hosea 11	Isaiah 5
Hosea 12	Isaiah 6
Hosea 13	Isaiah 7
Hosea 14	

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." Ephesians 2:8-9 (ESV)

Week 33 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 96 Psalm 97

Psalm 98

Proverbs 20:16-30

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

2 Corinthians 12

2 Corinthians 13

Galatians 1

Galatians 2

Galatians 3

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

2 Chronicles 28	Micah 1
2 Kings 16	Micah 2
2 Kings 17	Micah 3
Isaiah 8	Micah 4
Isaiah 9	Micah 5
Isaiah 10	Micah 6
Isaiah 11	Micah 7
Isaiah 12	

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:10 (ESV)

Week 34 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 99 Psalm 100

Psalm 101

Proverbs 21:1-15

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Galatians 4

Galatians 5

Galatians 6

Ephesians 1

Ephesians 2

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

10 Milliates I el Day	Old I coulifolit
2 Chronicles 29	Isaiah 17
2 Chronicles 30	Isaiah 18
2 Chronicles 31	Isaiah 19
2 Kings 18	Isaiah 20
Isaiah 13	Isaiah 21
Isaiah 14	Isaiah 22
Isaiah 15	Isaiah 23
Isaiah 16	

"All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out."

John 6:37 (ESV)

Week 35 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 102

Psalm 103

Psalm 104

Proverbs 21:16-31

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Ephesians 3

Ephesians 4

Ephesians 5

Ephesians 6

Philippians 1

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Isaiah 24	Isaiah 32
Isaiah 25	Isaiah 33
Isaiah 26	Isaiah 34
Isaiah 27	Isaiah 35
Isaiah 28	Isaiah 36
Isaiah 29	Isaiah 37
Isaiah 30	Isaiah 38
Isaiah 31	

"Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life." 1 John 5:12-13 (ESV)

Week 36 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 105 Psalm 106 Psalm 107 Proverbs 22:1-16

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Philippians 2 Philippians 3 Philippians 4 Colossians 1 Colossians 2

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

15 Minutes I et Duy	Old I coulinelle
2 Chronicles 32	Isaiah 43
2 Chronicles 33	Isaiah 44
2 Kings 19	Isaiah 45
2 Kings 20	Isaiah 46
Isaiah 39	Isaiah 47
Isaiah 40	Isaiah 48
Isaiah 41	Isaiah 49
Isaiah 42	

"The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God." Romans 8:16 (ESV)

Week 37 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 108 Psalm 109 Psalm 110

Proverbs 22:17-29

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Colossians 3

Colossians 4

1 Thessalonians 1

1 Thessalonians 2

1 Thessalonians 3

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Isaiah 50	Isaiah 58
Isaiah 51	Isaiah 59
Isaiah 52	Isaiah 60
Isaiah 53	Isaiah 61
Isaiah 54	Isaiah 62
Isaiah 55	Isaiah 63
Isaiah 56	Isaiah 64
Isaiah 57	

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." 2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)

Week 38 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 111

Psalm 112

Psalm 113

Proverbs 23:1-18

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

1 Thessalonians 4

1 Thessalonians 5

2 Thessalonians 1

2 Thessalonians 2

2 Thessalonians 3

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Isaiah 65	2 Kings 23
Isaiah 66	Nahum 1
2 Chronicles 33	Nahum 2
2 Chronicles 34	Nahum 3
2 Chronicles 35	Zephaniah 1
2 Kings 21	Zephaniah 2
2 Kings 22	Zephaniah 3

"There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." Romans 8:1 (ESV)

Week 39 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 114

Psalm 115

Psalm 116

Proverbs 23:19-35

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

1 Timothy 1

1 Timothy 2

1 Timothy 3

1 Timothy 4

1 Timothy 5

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Habakkuk 1	Jeremiah 3
Habakkuk 2	Jeremiah 4
Habakkuk 3	Jeremiah 5
Joel 1	Jeremiah 6
Joel 2	Jeremiah 7
Joel 3	Jeremiah 8
Jeremiah 1	Jeremiah 9
Jeremiah 2	

"All things are lawful for me,' but not all things are helpful. 'All things are lawful for me,' but I will not be dominated by anything." 1

Corinthians 6:12 (ESV)

Week 40 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 117 Psalm 118 Proverbs 24:1-18

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

1 Timothy 6

2 Timothy 1

2 Timothy 2

2 Timothy 3

2 Timothy 4

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

13 Milliutts I ti D	ay - Olu 1 Cstailleit
Jeremiah 10	Jeremiah 18
Jeremiah 11	Jeremiah 19
Jeremiah 12	Jeremiah 20
Jeremiah 13	Jeremiah 21
Jeremiah 14	Jeremiah 22
Jeremiah 15	Jeremiah 23
Jeremiah 16	Jeremiah 24
Jeremiah 17	

"Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will." Mark 14:35-36 (ESV)

Week 41 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 119:1-88 Proverbs 24:19-34

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Titus 1
Titus 2
Titus 3
Philemon
Hebrews 1

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

10 1:111101000 1 01 2 00,	0101 1 000001110110
Jeremiah 25	Jeremiah 33
Jeremiah 26	Jeremiah 34
Jeremiah 27	Jeremiah 35
Jeremiah 28	Jeremiah 36
Jeremiah 29	Jeremiah 37
Jeremiah 30	Jeremiah 38
Jeremiah 31	Jeremiah 39
Jeremiah 32	

"So we can confidently say, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?" Hebrews 13:6 (ESV)

Week 42 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 119:89-176 Proverbs 25:1-14

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Hebrews 2 Hebrews 3 Hebrews 4 Hebrews 5 Hebrews 6

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

2 Chronicles 36	Jeremiah 45
2 Kings 24	Jeremiah 46
2 Kings 25	Jeremiah 47
Jeremiah 40	Jeremiah 48
Jeremiah 41	Jeremiah 49
Jeremiah 42	Jeremiah 50
Jeremiah 43	Obadiah
Jeremiah 44	

"bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive." Colossians 3:13 (ESV)

Week 43 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 120

Psalm 121

Psalm 122

Proverbs 25:15-28

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Hebrews 7

Hebrews 8

Hebrews 9

Hebrews 10

Hebrews 11

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Jeremiah 51	Ezekiel 2
Jeremiah 52	Ezekiel 3
Lamentations 1	Ezekiel 4
Lamentations 2	Ezekiel 5
Lamentations 3	Ezekiel 6
Lamentations 4	Ezekiel 7
Lamentations 5	Ezekiel 8
Ezekiel 1	

"I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am." John 14:3 (ESV)

Week 44 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 123

Psalm 124

Psalm 125

Proverbs 26:1-16

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Hebrews 12

Hebrews 13

James 1

James 2

James 3

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Ezekiel 9	Ezekiel 17
Ezekiel 10	Ezekiel 18
Ezekiel 11	Ezekiel 19
Ezekiel 12	Ezekiel 20
Ezekiel 13	Ezekiel 21
Ezekiel 14	Ezekiel 22
Ezekiel 15	Ezekiel 23
Ezekiel 16	

"And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire." Revelation 20:15 (ESV)

Week 45 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 126

Psalm 127

Psalm 128

Proverbs 26:17-28

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

James 4

James 5

1 Peter 1

1 Peter 2

1 Peter 3

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Ezekiel 24	Ezekiel 32
Ezekiel 25	Ezekiel 33
Ezekiel 26	Ezekiel 34
Ezekiel 27	Ezekiel 35
Ezekiel 28	Ezekiel 36
Ezekiel 29	Ezekiel 37
Ezekiel 30	Ezekiel 38
Ezekiel 31	

"As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34 (ESV)

Week 46 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 129

Psalm 130

Psalm 131

Proverbs 27

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

1 Peter 4

1 Peter 5

2 Peter 1

2 Peter 2

2 Peter 3

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Ezekiel 39	Ezekiel 47
Ezekiel 40	Ezekiel 48
Ezekiel 41	Daniel 1
Ezekiel 42	Daniel 2
Ezekiel 43	Daniel 3
Ezekiel 44	Daniel 4
Ezekiel 45	Daniel 5
Ezekiel 46	

"everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart." Matthew 5:28 (ESV)

Week 47 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 132

Psalm 133

Psalm 134

Proverbs 28:1-14

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

1 John 1

1 John 2

1 John 3

1 John 4

1 John 5

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Daniel 6	Ezra 1
Daniel 7	Ezra 2
Daniel 8	Ezra 3
Daniel 9	Ezra 4
Daniel 10	Ezra 5
Daniel 11	Ezra 6

Daniel 12

"Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous." Hebrews 13:4 (ESV)

Week 48 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 135 Psalm 136 Psalm 137 Proverbs 28:15-28

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

2 John 3 John Jude Revelation 1 Revelation 2

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Haggai 1	Zechariah 3
Haggai 2	Zechariah 4
Zechariah 1	Zechariah 5
Zechariah 2	Zechariah 6

"However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband." Ephesians 5:33 (ESV)

Week 49 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 138

Psalm 139

Psalm 140

Proverbs 29

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Revelation 3

Revelation 4

Revelation 5

Revelation 6

Revelation 7

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Zechariah 7	Zechariah 11
Zechariah 8	Zechariah 12
Zechariah 9	Zechariah 13
Zechariah 10	Zechariah 14

"Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.'" Hebrews 13:5 (ESV)

Week 50 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 141

Psalm 142

Psalm 143

Proverbs 30

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Revelation 8

Revelation 9

Revelation 10

Revelation 11

Revelation 12

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Esther 1	Esther 6
Esther 2	Esther 7
Esther 3	Esther 8
Esther 4	Esther 9
Esther 5	Esther 10

"The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:5–7 (ESV)

Week 51 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 144

Psalm 145

Psalm 146

Proverbs 31:1-9

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Revelation 13

Revelation 14

Revelation 15

Revelation 16

Revelation 17

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

Malachi 1	Ezra 7
Malachi 2	Ezra 8
Malachi 3	Ezra 9
Malachi 4	Ezra 10

"Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is." Ephesians 5:15–17 (ESV)

Week 52 – Bible Reading

Pick a plan for this week and check off your progress as you read or listen.

5 Minutes Per Day - Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 147

Psalm 148

Psalm 149

Psalm 150

Proverbs 31:10-31

10 Minutes Per Day - New Testament

Revelation 18

Revelation 19

Revelation 20

Revelation 21

Revelation 22

15 Minutes Per Day - Old Testament

15 Milliutes I el Day	Old I cotament
Nehemiah 1	Nehemiah 8
Nehemiah 2	Nehemiah 9
Nehemiah 3	Nehemiah 10
Nehemiah 4	Nehemiah 11
Nehemiah 5	Nehemiah 12
Nehemiah 6	Nehemiah 13
Nehemiah 7	

"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us." Romans 8:18 (ESV)

Appendix of Resources

Here are some of my favorite Bible study resources I think you'll find helpful!

Top Children's Bibles

www.trustworthyword.com/childrens-bibles

The Beginner's Bible: Timeless Children's Stories

• One of the most popular story Bibles for younger children.

<u>The Big Picture Story Bible</u> – by David R. Helm and Gail Schoonmaker

• Beautiful illustrations for young children.

Bible Storybook from The Bible App & YouVersion

Excellent for toddlers through early elementary.
 Images connect well with the free interactive
 Bible app that young children will love.

<u>The One Year Children's Bible</u> – by Rhona Davies

 Perfect for elementary school age children and a wonderful length for family devotional time. One for every day of the year.

Foundations for Kids: A 260-day Bible Reading Plan for Kids - by Robby Gallaty

 A workbook-style approach that engages elementary school age children well as they journey through each of the 260 chapters of the New Testament.

It's All About Jesus Bible Storybook (padded): 100 Bible Stories (One Big Story)

• 100 of the most important stories of the Bible with a free interactive app. Great for elementary school age and family devotional times.

<u>The Jesus Storybook Bible: Every Story</u> <u>Whispers His Name</u> – by Sally Lloyd-Jones

• A good fit for older element through high school (and helpful for adults too) to piece together the 44 most important stories of the Bible in a simple and flowing format.

<u>The One Year Children's Bible for Kids – Challenge Edition</u> – by Tyndale Publishers

Perfect for middle and high school students.
 Requires about one page a day of reading that takes readers through the most biblical significant passages.

<u>Cornerstones - 200 Questions & Answers to</u> <u>Learn Truth</u> – by Brian Dembowczyk A simple question and answer format to the most important truths of the Christian faith. Great for all ages. A more in depth parent guide is available that would be a good fit for a year-long small group study.

Best Bible Apps for Kids

www.trustworthyword.com/childrens-bible-apps

Children's Bibles

- **Bible for Kids** (FREE) LifeChurch.TV, YouVersion
- BEST FREE Children's Bible App!!!
- **The Beginner's Bible** (some is free, but totals \$19.99 for everything) HarperCollins Christian Publishing
- BEST PAID Children's Bible App!!!
- **Bible.is KIDZ** (FREE) Faith Comes by Hearing Listen, See, Grow.
- God's Love: A Bible Storybook (\$0.99) Positive Action for Christ

Bible Verse Memory

- God's Word: Hide It! (FREE) Kingdom Media, LLC
- Verses Bible Memory (\$3.99-\$6.99 depending on translation) Verses, Ltd. Co. (under iPhone apps)

Bible Trivia

- Superbook Bible Trivia Game (FREE) The Christian Broadcasting Network
- Scripture Champion (FREE) Kingdom Media LLC

Bible Songs

- Cubbies Bible Verse Music: Sing Along with Scripture Songs from AWANA - Kingdom Media (\$7.99 for all songs)
- Bible Songs: Sing Along with Noah and other Bible Heroes for Children (\$9.98 for all songs) - Kingdom Media
- **GarageBand** (FREE) Apple (to play along with Christian music)

Various Bible Apps

- Got Questions? (FREE) Got Questions Ministries
- Superbook Kid's Bible, Videos, and Games (FREE

 videos can be downloaded if you are a subscriber) The Christian Broadcasting Network
 - Best Bible Video Series for Kids!!
 - Subscribe at: https://www.cbn.com/giving/special/sbdvdclub.a spx
- Owlegories (FREE full videos can be purchased) -Spy House, LLC

Bibles for All Ages

- ESV Study Bible (\$17.99) Crossway
 - BEST PAID Study Bible
 - Also get as an in-app purchase within the ESV Bible
- Gideons (FREE) Faith Comes by Hearing

- BEST FREE Audio Bible
- Also can get through Bible.is App
- Multiple languages to read or listen!
- YouVersion Bible (FREE) LifeChurch.TV, YouVersion
 - #1 Rated and Downloaded Bible App

Bible Characters

- <u>4soils.com</u> has a collection of Bible Characters apps (a few are free, but most have various prices with bundled prices having the most value) Kingdom Media
 - Life of Jesus Bundle, Miracles of Jesus bundle, Parables of Jesus bundle, Bible Heroes bundle, Esther, David, Joseph, Noah, Jonah, Daniel

Fun Ideas on How to Use Children's Bible Apps

- 1. Trivia Contest: Pair up or have a group competition using a trivia app!
- **2. Bible Verse Lookup:** Have a race to see who can find a verse first!
- **3.** Character Discovery: Challenge your child to find a particular character or story on the SuperBook or another app.
- **4. Scripture Artwork:** Use an app to draw out a Scripture or color a story activity.
- **5. Music Play Along:** Use GarageBand to play instruments & sing a song or hymn.
- **6. Find and Listen:** Use Bible.is KIDZ or ESV Study Bible to play the Bible out loud.
- 7. **Bible Memory:** Memorize a verse for a prize using an app to help!
- **8. Got Questions:** Find some challenging and interesting questions with Bible answers!
- **9. Sing Along:** Sing loud and proud as you place a Bible song!
- **10. Church Happenings Exploration:** Use your church's app to explore activities.
- **11. Language Lookup:** Use the Gideons app to read a Bible verse in another language.

Verse Connections: Use the ESV Study Bible to use notes to find corresponding verses or Bible references.

Top One Year Bibles

www.trustworthyword.com/one-year-bibles

The One Year Bible – by Tyndale House Publishers

• One of the most popular approaches to reading the entire Bible in a year. A digital version can be found in the YouVersion Bible app as well. Various translations are available as well.

<u>The One Year Bible Companion</u> – by Tyndale House Publishers

 This companion book offers answers to some of the most common questions that come along with your daily readings.

The One Year Chronological Bible – by Tyndale House Publishers

 This chronological approach helpfully guides you through parallel passages in a smooth, easy-to-use format. If you've never read the Bible chronologically this is the easiest way to start.

Reading God's Story: A Chronological Daily Bible and Reader's Guide to the Bible: A Chronological Bible Reading Plan – by George Guthrie

 A 52 week chronological Bible coupled with a commentary guide and small group discussion questions.

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How Can I Become a Christian?

www.trustworthyword.com/how-can-i-become-a-christian

1. Understand and believe that God is the Creator of the Universe

God created us and has authority over us.

- Colossians 1:16-17 "For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authoritiesall things were created through him and for him. 17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together."
- Hebrews 11:3 "By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible."

We will give an answer for our lives.

- Hebrews 9:27 "And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment"
- Hebrews 4:13 "And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account."

2. Acknowledge and confess your sinfulness

God's Commandments are His perfect standard of Holiness

- Romans 3:19-20 "Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. 20 For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin."
- Romans 3:23 "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"
- James 2:10 "For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it."

Admit that you are not good. Turn away from you sin and turn towards Christ.

- Psalm 32:5 "I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,' and you forgave the iniquity of my sin."
- Romans 3:10-12 "None is righteous, no, not one; [11] no one understands; no one seeks for God. [12] All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one."

• 1 John 1:9-10 "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. [10] If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us."

3. Believe that Jesus died on the cross and rose from the grave

Realize that Salvation is by Faith (trusting in Jesus, loving and valuing Him more than anyone or anything) and not by works.

- Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."
- Ephesians 2:8-9 "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast."
- Mark 12:28-31 "And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, 'Which commandment is the most important of all?' [29] Jesus answered, "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. [30] And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' [31] The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Affirm that Jesus is God and is the Only Way of Salvation. Salvation is not possible by obedience in Judaism, not through Mohammed's revelation of Allah (Islam), not through Buddhism or Hinduism, not by good

works, and not through Jehovah's Witnesses or Mormonism. Salvation is only available through Jesus.

- John 14:6 "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'"
- Acts 4:12 "And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."
- 1 John 2:23 "No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also."

4. Call out to Jesus in prayer to be in charge of your life

Publicly place your trust and faith in Him.

- Acts 16:30-31 Then he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" [31] And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."
- Romans 10:9-10 "if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. [10] For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."
- Romans 10:13 "For 'everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Submit and yield to His Lordship. Let Him be in control of your life.

- Acts 2:37-38 "Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, 'Brothers, what shall we do?' [38] And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- Matthew 16:24-26 "Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. [25] For whoever would save his life(1) will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. [26] For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?"

Now What? If you have chosen to believe that Jesus Christ is God, died on the cross, and rose from the grave and have truly yielded control of your life to Him, you are a Christian and follower of Jesus. *Here is what to do next...*

Walk with Jesus in Fellowship with Other Believers Proclaim Christ's Lordship over your life through Baptism

 Acts 2:38 "And Peter said to them, 'Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'"

See "What does the Bible say about Baptism?" on TrustworthyWord.com

• www.trustworthyword.com/what-does-the-bible-sayabout-baptism

Read your Bible to grow in your knowledge and love of Christ

See "How to Study the Bible?" on TrustworthyWord.com

• www.trustworthyword.com/how-to-study-the-bible

Pray consistently and daily to relate more with Jesus See "What Does the Bible Say God is Like?" and "What Does the Bible Say about Christian Identity?" on TrustworthyWord.com

- www.trustworthyword.com/what-does-the-bible-saygod-is-like
- www.trustworthyword.com/what-does-the-bible-sayabout-christian-identity

Connect with a biblically faithful church family

• Hebrews 10:25-26 "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."

See "What Does the Bible Say about Church Membership?" on TrustworthyWord.com

• <u>www.trustworthyword.com/what-does-the-bible-say-about-church-membership</u>

Speak and Demonstrate God's Love

• Ephesians 2:10 "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

See "What Does the Bible Say about Love?" on TrustworthyWord.com

• www.trustworthyword.com/what-does-the-bible-sayabout-love

Listen to and Obey God's Commands

- Hebrews 10:26-27 "For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries."
- 1 Peter 1:15-16 "but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, 16 since it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy.'"

See "What Does the Bible Say about Sin?" and "What Does the Bible Say about Sanctification?" on TrustworthyWord.com

- www.trustworthyword.com/what-does-the-bible-sayabout-sin
- www.trustworthyword.com/what-does-the-bible-sayabout-sanctification

Common Objections to the Gospel

1. What about people who've never heard about Jesus? Will they go to Hell?

What about other religions: Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus, and tribal religions? A person doesn't go to Hell for failing to hear the Gospel, they go to hell for failing to obey God's law. Consider if a man jumped out of a plane without a parachute. He doesn't die primarily because he doesn't have a parachute. The reason he dies is because he violates the law of gravity...which brings him to his death. If a person dies without Christ, it is because he has transgressed the law of God...ignorance is not excuse. If we really care about those who have not heard about Jesus, we need to first come to Christ, and take His name, the only name which offers hope of salvation... to the ends of the earth.

2. My god is a god of love and forgiveness who doesn't send someone to hell.

This is an example of idolatry...a violation of the 2nd commandment. Crafting a god of our own imagination, in our own image, or a god we are comfortable with. We cannot separate God's justice from God's love. He does judge the wicked and the immoral by their transgression of the law, and their sentence is eternal death and suffering in a very real Hell. This same God, we learn from Romans 5:8, loved us so much, that while we were still rebels and enemies, sent His son to die for us.

3. Why is there so much suffering?

We all go through suffering. All of us have been hurt by the sinfulness of others, the consequences of living in a fallen world, and by our own sinfulness. We need to have faith in God, knowing and trusting that He is in control, and that His good plan includes an eternal rescue from sin, suffering, and death. It is good to ask these deep questions. I would recommend www.gotquestions.org to dig deeply into this question and other similarly tough questions. Ultimately God sent this message here today to help save you from eternal suffering. This is God's love.

4. I'm already saved.

God tells us to test ourselves to see if we are in the faith. Have our lives changed? Do we desire to hear God's voice through the Bible? Are we obedient to God's commands? Do we see the fruits of God's Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control) in our lives? (Galatians 5:22-24) Or do we see the works of the flesh in our lives (sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these)? (Galatians 5:19-21) Do we desperately seek Him in prayer? Do we see righteousness being produced by God in our lives? Are we quick to forgive? Do we love others?

SEE "How Can I Be Sure I Am a Christian?" (the next chapter) or on <u>TrustworthyWord.com</u> @

• www.trustworthyword.com/how-can-i-be-sure-im-a-christian

When you see a doctor and you are sick, what does he do? He assess the symptoms, shoots straight with you, and tells you about your disease and any possible cures. The Bible clearly speaks to any symptoms of ongoing, unrepentant sin in our lives. Matthew 7:21 "I never knew you." Test yourselves.

5. I don't believe in God.

Just because we don't believe something doesn't make it disappear. Put on a blindfold and stand in front of a large truck on a highway, saying I don't believe the truck exists. I know there is no such thing as an atheist. No such thing as an atheist at 25,000 ft in crazy turbulence. Look at a painting, do you say, look what coincidentally formed by chance over a ridiculously long period of time? No. You see a painting. You know there is a painter. You see a building, you know there is a builder. You see the Creation and you know there is a Creator.

6. I don't believe the Bible is God's Word.

You are right the Bible was written by men. When you write a letter, do you write, or does the pen? Men are God's instruments to write the Bible. The Bible is the most accurate piece of literature in all of history...scientifically, historically, prophetically, archaeologically, and documentary or manuscript evidence. Find an error. We've searched. We can't find any.

7. I confess my sins and say I'm sorry all the time.

Consider civil law. If someone is guilty of a serious crime, when they come to trial, if they just say "I'm sorry" to the judge, do you think he'll just let her go?

That's not fair. Only a corrupt or unrighteous judge would let a guilty person free without a penalty. The law has been broken. Justice demands a punishment. We can't just say we are sorry. We can't be "good enough" to overcome our crimes. We need Jesus to pay for the penalty for our sin.

8. I've lied, but that doesn't make me a bad person.

On moral issues...it only takes one commission of a crime to be labeled a criminal. One murder = a murderer. One lie = liar. One theft = a thief. One lust = adulterer. It is human nature to trivialize sin, but sin is serious. God tells us in James 2:10 that anyone who is guilty of one sin is guilty of all sin.

9. Christianity is narrow-minded.

The Bible is clear that there is only one way. Jesus says in John 14:6, "I am the way and the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father except through me." In Acts 4:12 we learn that there is only one "name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." I you don't have the Son, don't have the Father. You're right, without Jesus, no hope for your transgression of the law. Jesus has the power to forgive sins...He openly offers that exclusive path to salvation to all who hear...would you reject Him? Put your faith in Him?

10. I don't agree with you.

No one knows when they will face death. Did you know that 150,000 people die every 24 hours? That is not a scare tactic, that is reality. And after death there is guaranteed judgment. Jesus speaks of the rich man and Lazarus, the rich man who is in Hell becomes desperate

to tell his family about Jesus. Read Romans 2:4 – We plead with you to realize you are storing up wrath for yourself for the day of judgment...don't presume upon God's patience and kindness. Get right with the Lord. Consider our motives...we just want you to know and love Jesus and find eternal life. Paul in Romans 9 explains that he wishes he could sacrifice his own salvation for the salvation of someone else...but it doesn't work that way. You must decide.

THE BOTTOM LINE? There is no good objection for failing to follow Christ as your Lord. Do you have a good reason for putting Him off any longer?

Check out these resources for more answers!

- needgod.com
- gotquestions.org

How Can I Be Sure I Am a Christian?

www.trustworthyword.com/how-can-i-be-sure-im-a-christian

"Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?— unless indeed you fail to meet the test!" 2 Corinthians 13:5 (ESV)

1. Did a work start in you?

- if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. (Romans 10:9)
- And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. (Philippians 1:6)

2. Have you experienced God's Spirit in you?

 In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory. (Ephesians 1:13-14)

3. Is there fruit of God's Spirit growing in you?

(Read the book of 1 John)

- 1. Do you enjoy having fellowship w/Christ & Christians? (1 John 1:3)
- 2. Would people say you walk in the light or darkness? (1 John 1:6-7)
- 3. Do you admit and confess your sin? (1 John 1:8)
- 4. Are you obedient to God's Word? (1 John 2:3-5)
- 5. Does your life indicate you love God or the world? (1 John 2:15)
- 6. Is your life characterized by "doing what is right"? (1 John 2:29)
- 7. Do you seek to maintain a pure life? (1 John 3:3)
- 8. Do you see a decreasing pattern of sin in your life? (1 John 3:5-6) [i.e. not continuing in sin as a way of life, not a total absence of sin.]
- 9. Do you demonstrate love for other Christians? (<u>1 John</u> 3:14)
- 10. Do you "walk the walk," vs just "talking the talk"? (1Jn 3:18-19)
- 11. Do you maintain a clear conscience? (1 John 3:21)
- 12. Do you experience victory in your Christian walk? (1

John 5:4)

4. Do you endure in the faith?

• They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us. (1 John 2:19)

Works of the Flesh vs. Fruits of the Spirit: What best describes you?

The "works of the flesh" are evidence for unbelief and an eternity in Hell.

The "fruit of the Spirit" evidences God's saving work and eternity with Christ. (Galatians 5:16-24)

[19] Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, [20] idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, [21] envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

[22] But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, [23] gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. [24] And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

Parable of the Sower: What category of "soil" best describes your response to the good news about Jesus?

(Matthew 13:19-23 ESV)

- 1. [19] When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path.
- 2. [20] As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, [21] yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away.
- 3. [22] As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.

Only the fourth ("good") soil below describes a genuine Christian.

4. [23] As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.

Do You See These Three Characteristics in Your Life?

The Book of 1 John Helps Us to See Characteristics of Truly Converted and Saved Souls.

"I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life." (1 John 5:13)

1. Obedience to God's Commands?

- If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. (1 John 1:6)
- Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked. (1 John 2:4-6)

- If one turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination. (Proverbs 28:9)
- No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. (1 John 3:6)
- By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother. (1 John 3:10)
- For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. (1 John 5:3)

2. Forgiveness?

- Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness. (1 John 2:9)
- For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. (Matt 6:14-15)

3. Love?

- If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. (1 John 2:15)
- No one who denies the Son has the Father. (1 John 2:23)
- But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. (1 Timothy 5:8)

• Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. (1 John 4:8)

Evidence for Jesus

www.trustworthyword.com/evidence-for-jesus

Was Jesus' Life, Death, & Deity Real?

INTERNAL EVIDENCE

(inside the Bible)

Attests to Jesus' Deity, Existence & Death
Scriptural Consistency, Prophetic Claims, Eyewitness
Accounts, Internal Consistency, Corroborating &
Circumstantial Evidence Archaeological Congruence &
Evidence, Scientific Evidence, Jesus' Claims of Deity,
Disciples Claims of Deity Jesus Predicts His Death &
Resurrection – Mk 8:31-33, 9:30-32; Mt 20:17-19

Prophecies and Fulfillment of Christ

- 1. Offspring of a Woman Genesis 3:15, Luke 2:7, Revelation 12:5
- 2. Offspring of Abraham Genesis 18:18, Acts 3:25, Matthew 1:1, Luke 3:34
- 3. Offspring of Isaac Genesis 17:19, Matthew 1:2, Luke 3:34
- 4. Offspring of Jacob Numbers 24:17, Genesis 28:14, Luke 3:34, Matthew 1:2
- 5. Descended from the Tribe of Judah Genesis 49:10, Luke 3:33, Matthew 1:2-3
- 6. Heir to the Throne of David Isaiah 9:7, 11:1-5, 2 Samuel 7:13, Jeremiah 23:5, Matt1:1,6, Luke 1:32-
- 7. Born in Bethlehem Micah 5:2, Matthew 2:1, Luke 2:4-7

- 8. Time of Birth Daniel 9:25, Luke 2:1-2, 2:3-7
- 9. Born of a Virgin Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:18, Luke 1:26-35
- 10. Slaughter of Infants Jeremiah 31:15, Matthew 2:16-18
- 11. Escape into Egypt Hosea 11:1, Matthew 2:14-15
- 12. A PROPHET, LIKE MOSES Deuteronomy 18:15, John 1:45, 16:15, Acts 3:19-26
- 13. Ministry in Galilee Isaiah 9:1-2, Matthew 4:12-16
- 14. Priest Like Melchizedek Psalm 110:4, Zechariah 6:12-13, Hebrews 6:20, 5:5-6, 7:15-17
- 15. Rejected by Jews Isaiah 53:3, Psalm 2:2, John 1:11, 5:43, Luke 4:29, 17:25
- 16. Characteristics Isaiah 11:2, Psalm 45:7, Luke 2:52, 4:18
- 17. Triumphal Entry Zechariah 9:9, Isaiah 62:11, John 12:13-14, Matthew 21:1-11
- 18. Betrayed by a Friend Psalm 41:9, Mark 14:10
- 19. Sold for 30 Pieces of Silver, Potter's Field Zechariah 11:12-13, Matthew 26:15, 27:6-7
- Judas' Position Replaced Psalm 109:7, Acts 1:18-20
- 21. False Witnesses' Accused Him Psalm 27:12, Matthew 26:60-61
- 22. Silent When Accused Isaiah 53:5, Matthew 26:62-63
- 23. Struck and Spit Upon Isaiah 50:6, Mark 14:65
- 24. Hated Without Cause Psalm 69:4, John 15:23
- 25. Suffered Vicariously Isaiah 53:4, Matthew 8:16-17
- 26. Hands and Feet Pierced Psalm 22:16, John 20:27

- 27. Crucified With Sinners Isaiah 53:12, Matthew 27:38
- 28. Mocked and Insulted Psalm 22:6-8, Matthew 27:39-40
- 29. Given Gall and Vinegar Psalm 69:21, John 19:29
- 30. Hears Prophetic Words Used As Mockery Psalm 22:8, Matthew 27:43
- 31. Prays for His Enemies Psalm 109:4, Luke 23:34
- 32. Side Pierced Zechariah 12:10, John 19:34
- 33. Soldiers Cast Lots for His Clothes Psalm 22:18, Matthew 15:24
- 34. Not a Bone to Be Broken Psalm 34:20, John 19:33
- 35. Buried With the Rich Isaiah 53:9, Matthew 27:57-60
- 36. Resurrection Psalm 16:10, Matthew 28:9
- 37. Ascension into Heaven Psalm 68:18, Luke 24:50

Do you know the odds of Jesus fulfilling just 8 prophecies? It is 1 in 10 to the 17th power (1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000).

Consider the odds for all 300+ prophecies (www.accordingtothescriptures.org/prophecy/353prophecies.html)

"I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept his claim to be God.

That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic — on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg — or else he would be the Devil of Hell.

You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend

- C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

"The Bible was written over a span of 1500 years by forty different human authors in three different languages (Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek), on hundreds of subjects. And yet there is one consistent, non-contradictory theme that runs through it all: *God's redemption of humankind*."

Hank Hanegraaff in "Bible Reliability"

www.equip.org/articles/bible-reliability-m-a-p-s-toguide-you-through-bible-reliability

Is Jesus Really God's Son?

Whoever speaks the truth gives honest evidence, but a false witness utters deceit. (Proverbs 12:17 ESV)

If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. (1 Corinthians 15:19 ESV)

but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, (1 Peter 3:15 ESV)

- 1. Baptism Mark 1:9-11
- 2. I AM Statements Mark 14:62, John 4:26, 8:58, 18:6, Exodus 3:14, Isaiah 4:45
- 3. Immanuel Matthew 1:23
- 4. See God Matthew 5:8
- 5. Seen Me, Seen Father John 14:7
- 6. Image of the Invisible God John 1, Col 1:15-16
- 7. Father and I Are One John 10:30
- 8. Alpha and Omega, Beginning and the End Revelation 1:8, 22:20
- 9. Making Self Equal with God John 5:18
- 10. Shares God's Glory John 17:5-6
- 11. He Is the New Temple John 2:18-19
- 12. He Is the Law Giver Matthew 5-7
- 13. Great High Priest Hebrews 4:14

Was Jesus More Than Just a Good Man?

- 1. Virgin Birth Matthew 1:18, Luke 1:26-35
- 2. Fulfillment of Prophecies Ps 22, Isaiah 53:1-12
- 3. Angels Worship Him Hebrews 1:6
- 4. Reception of Worship John 9:38, 20:28
- 5. Transfiguration Matthew 17:1-13
- 6. Claim of Disciples John 20:28-29 Thomas
- 7. Without Sin Hebrews 4:15
- 8. Forgives Sin John 9:2-6
- 9. Raising Others from the Dead John 11:1-46
- 10. Resurrection and Ascension Mt 28:1-15, Acts 1:4-11, Luke 23 & 24

EXTERNAL EVIDENCE

(outside the Bible)

Attests to Jesus' Deity, Existence & Death

Manuscript & Bibliographical Evidence, Eyewitness
Accounts, Corroborating & Circumstantial Evidence,
Archaeological Evidence, & Scientific Evidence
Below quotes from: Paul Maier in Did Jesus Really
Exist? & Joseph and Josephus www.4truth.net ,also: The
Case for the Real Jesus by: Lee Strobel

"there is more evidence that Jesus of Nazareth certainly lived than for most famous figures of the ancient past" Paul L. Maier, The Russell H. Seibert Professor of Ancient History, Western Michigan University

The Manuscript & Bibliographical Evidence: Ancient Works vs. Bible

			Earliest Manuscript		Number of Manuscript
Author	Work	Date Written	s	Time Gap	s
Homer	Iliad	800 BC	c. 400 BC	400	1,757
Herodotus	History	480-425 BC	10th C	1,350	109
Sophocles	Plays	496-406 BC	3rd C BC	100-200	193
Plato	Tetralogies	400 BC	895	1,300	210
Caesar	Gallic Wars	100-44 BC	9th C	950	251
Livy	History of Rome	59 BC–AD 17	Early 5th C	400	150
Tacitus	Annals	AD 100	1st half:850, 2nd: 1050 (AD 1100)	750-950	2 + 31 15 th C
Pliny, the Elder	Natural History	AD 49-79	5th C fragment: 1; Rem. 14–15th C	400 (750)	200
Thucydides	History	460-400 BC	3rd C BC (AD 900)	200 (1,350)	96
Demosthenes	Speeches	300 BC	Some fragments from 1 C. BC. (AD 1100)	1,100+ (1,400)	340
New Testament		AD 50-100	AD 130 (or less)	40	5,795

NOTE: This does not even show the Old Testament manuscript evidence (Dead Sea Scrolls, Septuagint, Massoretic, etc) or the thousands of other New Testament manuscripts available in other languages and ancient time periods (24,000+ total NT manuscripts, 5795 Greek mss, 8,000-10,000 Latin mss, 8,000 Ethiopic, Slavic & Armenian).

www.equip.org/articles/the-bibliographical-testupdated/#christian-books-2 www.leaderu.com/orgs/probe/docs/bib-docu.html "We have more than 14,000 manuscripts and fragments of the Old Testament of three main types: (a) approximately 10,000 from the Cairo Geniza (storeroom) find of 1897, dating back as far as about AD. 800; (b) about 190 from the Dead Sea Scrolls find of 1947-1955, the oldest dating back to 250-200 B.C.; and (c) at least 4,314 assorted other copies. The short time between the original Old Testament manuscripts (completed around 400 B.C.) and the first extensive copies (about 250 B.C.) — coupled with the more than 14,000 copies that have been discovered — ensures the trustworthiness of the Old Testament text. The earliest quoted verses (Num. 6:24-26) date from 800-700 B.C." www.equip.org/articles/bible-reliability-m-a-p-s-to-

www.equip.org/articles/bible-reliability-m-a-p-s-toguide-you-through-bible-reliability

"The interval, then, between the dates of original composition and the earliest extant evidence becomes so small as to be in fact negligible, and the last foundation for any doubt that the Scriptures have come down to us substantially as they were written has now been removed. Both the authenticity and the general integrity of the books of the New Testament may be regarded as finally established." -Sir Frederic G. Kenyon, *The Bible and Archaeology*,

former director and principal librarian of the British
Museum

CHRISTIAN HISTORICAL EVIDENCE

Early Church Fathers (ccel.org) all of the early church pastors and leaders establish consistency of the message and personal testimony and witness of the apostles and disciples of Christ

Justin Martyr (early Christian convert): "Born of pagan parents around A.D. 100 in Nablus (between Judea and Galilee), Justin tried and abandoned various philosophical schools until he found in Christianity the one true teaching. As a native of the Holy Land, Justin mentions sites associated with Jesus, such as the Bethlehem grotto in which he was born, and even such details as Jesus working as an apprentice carpenter in the shop of his foster father Joseph, where they specialized in producing such agricultural implements as yokes for oxen and plows." (Paul Maier in http://www.4truth.net/fourtruthpbjesus.aspx?pageid=858 9952895)

JEWISH HISTORICAL EVIDENCE

Sacred Jewish Writings spell Jesus' name accurately in Amaraic (the spoken language of the day, "Yeshua Hannotzri"—Joshua (Jesus) of Nazareth), writing of his arrest warrant in the Mishna (earliest collection of writings in the Talmud) "He shall be stoned because he has practiced sorcery and lured Israel to apostasy. Anyone who can say anything in his favor, let him come forward and plead on his behalf. Anyone who knows where he is, let him declare it to the Great Sanhedrin in Jerusalem."

The Babylonian Talmud (Sanhedrin 43a) "confirms Jesus' crucifixion on the eve of Passover and the accusations against Christ of practicing sorcery and encouraging Jewish apostasy."

Jewish History: Flavius Josephus a famous Jewish historian mentions "Jesus who is called the Christ" twice in his Jewish Antiquities. In the second of these, he tells of the death of Jesus' half-brother James the Just of Jerusalem (20:200). In the longest first-century non-biblical reference to Christ,

Josephus writes: "At this time there was a wise man called Jesus, and his conduct was good, and he was known to be virtuous. Many people among the Jews and the other nations became his disciples. Pilate condemned him to be crucified and to die. But those who had become his disciples did not abandon his discipleship. They reported that he had appeared to them three days after his crucifixion and that he was alive. Accordingly,

he was perhaps the Messiah, concerning whom the prophets have reported wonders. And the tribe of the Christians, so named after him, has not disappeared to this day." (18:63)

SECULAR HISTORICAL EVIDENCE

Cornelius Tacitus. "one of the most reliable source historians of first-century Rome, wrote in his Annals a year-by-year account of events in the Roman Empire under the early Caesars. Among the highlights that he reports for the year A.D. 64 was the great fire of Rome. People blamed the emperor Nero for this conflagration since it happened 'on his watch,' but in order to save himself, Nero switched the blame to 'the Christians,' which is the first time they appear in secular history. Careful historian that he was, Tacitus then explains who 'the Christians' were: 'Christus, the founder of the name, had undergone the death penalty in the reign of Tiberius, by sentence of the procurator Pontius Pilatus' (15:44). He then goes on to report the horrors that were inflicted on the Christians in what became their first Roman persecution."

"Tacitus, it should be emphasized, was not some Christian historian who was trying to prove that Jesus Christ really lived, but a pagan who despised Christians as a 'disease,' a term he uses later in the passage. Had Jesus never even existed, he would have been the first to expose that pathetic phantom on whom such cultists placed their trust. Were no other references to Jesus available, this passage alone would have been sufficient to establish his historicity. Skeptics realize this, and so have tried every imaginable means to discredit this passage—but to no avail. Manuscript analysis and computer studies have never found any reason to call this sentence into question, nor its context."

Gaius Suetonius Tranquillus also recorded events of the first century in his famous Lives of the Twelve Caesars. He, too, regarded the Christians as a sect "professing a new and mischievous religious belief" (Nero 16) and doubtless cited "Chrestus" (Claudius 25).

Pliny the Younger "was the Roman governor of Bithynia—today, the northwestern corner of Turkey—and about the year 110 he wrote the emperor Trajan (98-117 A.D.), asking what to do about the Christians, a 'wretched cult' whom he mentions eight times in his letter. Christ himself is cited three times, the most famous instance referring to Christians "...who met on a fixed day to chant verses alternately among themselves in honor of Christ, as if to a god..." (Letter No. 96). Trajan's response, interestingly enough, suggests that Christians not be hunted out. (Ibid., No. 97). But again, if Christ were only a mythical character, these hostile sources would have been the first to emblazon that fact in derision."

Below references are from: www.gotquestions.org/did-Jesus-exist.html

Julius Africanus "quotes the historian *Thallus* in a discussion of the darkness which followed the crucifixion of Christ (Extant Writings, 18)."

Lucian of Samosata "was a second-century Greek writer who admits that Jesus was worshiped by Christians, introduced new teachings, and was crucified for them. He said that Jesus' teachings included the brotherhood of believers, the importance of conversion, and the

importance of denying other gods. Christians lived according to Jesus' laws, believed themselves to be immortal, and were characterized by contempt for death, voluntary self-devotion, and renunciation of material goods."

Mara Bar-Serapion "confirms that Jesus was thought to be a wise and virtuous man, was considered by many to be the king of Israel, was put to death by the Jews, and lived on in the teachings of His followers."

"Then we have all the *Gnostic writings* (The Gospel of Truth, The Apocryphon of John, The Gospel of Thomas, The Treatise on Resurrection, etc.) that all mention Jesus. ... In fact, we can almost reconstruct the gospel just from early non-Christian sources: Jesus was called the Christ (Josephus), did "magic," led Israel into new teachings, and was hanged on Passover for them (Babylonian Talmud) in Judea (Tacitus), but claimed to be God and would return (Eliezar), which his followers believed, worshiping Him as God (Pliny the Younger)."

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

<u>www.bibleplaces.com</u> – photographs & descriptions of archaeological sites that evidence and corroborate the Bible

<u>www.blog.bibleplaces.com</u> – ongoing discoveries and archaeological updates

"TOP TEN BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLGY DISCOVERIES"

from the Biblical Archeology Society by James Brashler, Jane Cahill West, Ze'ev Meshel, John Monson, Hershel Shanks, Suzanne F. Singer, Lawrence E. Stager, James F. Strange

(Available from <u>www.biblicalarchaeology.org/free-ebooks</u>)

- The Nag Hammadi Library Codices Shed New Light on Early Christian History
- The New 'Ain Dara Temple: Closest Solomonic Parallel
- 3. The Tel Dan ("David") Stela
- 4. Mona Lisa of the Galilee
- 5. "Yahweh and His Asherah" The Kuntillet 'Ajrud Ostraca
- 6. St. Peter's House: Has the House Where Jesus Stayed in Capernaum Been Found?
- 7. The Siloam Pool: Where Jesus Cured the Blind Man
- 8. Ashkelon's Arched Gate: When Canaanites and Philistines Ruled Ashkelon
- 9. Jerusalem's Stepped-Stone Structure: Jerusalem in David and Solomon's Time

10. Jerusalem's Babylonian Siege Tower: Remains of the Babylonian Siege

More Amazing Archaeological Discoveries

A Common Flood Story, The Code of Hammurabi, The Nuzi Tablets, The Existence of Hittites, The Merneptah Stele, Biblical Cities Attested Archaeologically, Shishak's Invasion of Judah, The Moabite Stone, Obelisk of Shalmaneser III, Burial Plaque of King Uzziah, Hezekiah's Siloam Tunnel Inscription, The Sennacherib Prism, The Cylinder of Cyrus the Great (Available from: http://www.equip.org/articles/biblical-archaeology-factual-evidence-to-support-the-historicity-of-the-bible/)

RESOURCES FOR FUTURE STUDY

What does God say through the Bible?

<u>www.gotquestions.org</u> – almost 400,000 answers to life, spiritual, and Bible questions.

Is Christianity True?

- I Don't Have Enough Faith to be an Atheist by Norman Geisler and Frank Turek, shows how there is more evidence for Christianity than evolution/naturalism
- *The Case for Christ* by Lee Strobel simply explains much of the evidence for Christianity
- Scientific Facts in the Bible: 100 Reasons to Believe the Bible is Supernatural in Origin by Ray Comfort
- The New Evidence that Demands a Verdict by Josh McDowell

Creation vs. Evolution

- www.evolutionvsgod.com A 38-minute video, with over 1.7 million views, of interviews with atheist professors and scholars concerning their beliefs in evolution.
- www.answersingenesis.org Provides answers to questions about the Bible regarding issues such as creation, evolution, science, and the age of the earth
- <u>www.reasons.org</u> explains scientific discoveries and shows how they continue to evidence the truthfulness of Scripture

• Where the Conflict Really Lies: Science, Religion & Naturalism by Alvin Plantiga

Archaeological Evidence

<u>www.bibleplaces.com</u> – <u>www.blog.bibleplaces.com</u> www.biblicalarchaeology.org/free-ebooks

Comparison of Christianity with other World Religions

www.4truth.net - A reasoned approach to Christianity

Additional Resources

- Life's Ultimate Questions: An Introduction to Philosophy by Ronald H. Nash
- Reasonable Faith: Christian Truth and Apologetics by William Lane Craig
- Who Made God? And Answers to Over 100 Other Tough Questions of Faith by Ravi Zacharias and Norman Geisler
- Reasons for Faith: Making a Case for the Christian Faith Norman L. Geisler

How to Study Your Bible

www.trustworthyword.com/how-to-study-the-bible

10 Reasons to Read and Study the Bible

- **1. Encounter God** The Bible is where we meet God and hear His voice and truth!
- **2. Know God** We don't just seek to know about God, but to relate to and grow in love for Him.
- **3. Glorify God** We desire to grow in holiness and imitation of Christ in order to honor God.
- **4. Experience God's Past Work** We learn from God's revealed historical work among humanity.
- **5. Understand God's Present Work** We hear how God desires to work in & through us today.
- **6.** Look Forward to God's Future Work We trust in His promised future return and work.
- 7. Protect from Satan's Attacks We remember our real enemy in Satan, his demons, the world, and our flesh and are reminded that His truth is a spiritual weapon of offense and defense.
- **8. Share True Hope with Others** We evangelistically speak God's hope, love, and Gospel truth.
- **9.** Live Life According to God's Wisdom We submit to our Father's loving instruction for life
- **10. Obedience** God has commanded us to listen and obey His voice through the Bible.

10 Ways to Read the Bible

As you seek to read the Bible, ensure to prioritize time to take the Bible for study and meditation: understanding, absorbing, internalizing, memorizing, and applying the Scriptures.

- **1. Through the Bible** Read the whole Bible from beginning to end or in some other order!
 - Try <u>about.esvbible.org/resources/reading/</u> or www.biblestudytools.com/bible-reading-plan/
- **2. New Testament** If you read a chapter per weekday, you can read the whole Bible in a year
- **3. Proverbs** There are 31 Proverbs, so seek to read the one corresponding to the calendar day (i.e. read Proverbs 17 on the 17th day of the month, Proverbs 18 on 18th day of the month, etc.).
- **4. Psalms** There are 150 Psalms, so choose a Psalm each day to help guide your prayers (i.e. on the 17th day of the month select either Psalm 17, 47, 77, 107, or 137 to read and instruct you in prayer).
 - See Don Whitney's Praying the Bible
- **5. Read slowly through Romans** Go deeper and digest and study theology.
 - Use a resource like Wayne Grudem's <u>Christian</u> <u>Beliefs</u> or <u>Systematic Theology</u> to help you!

- 6. Pick a single Bible book to read (i.e. John to learn the basics of Jesus' life and death. James or Proverbs to know and apply God's wisdom. 1 John to check and ensure you are a believer.) The Bible Project has amazing Bible-book approach video resources that you won't want to miss:

 www.bibleproject.com
- 7. Subscribe to a faithful devotional aid to compliment your Bible reading
 - Try www.biblestudytools.com/devotionals
- 8. Study a character. Search and read wherever their name appears.
 - Check out <u>The Baker Encyclopedia of Bible</u> <u>People</u>
- 9. Study a place. Search and read wherever that place is mentioned.
 - Check out <u>www.bibleplaces.com/sites</u> for some incredible descriptions and pictures!
- 10. Study a topic. Search and learn about what God teaches about key issues.
 - Check out GotQuestions.org

Important Bible Study Questions

Where did the Bible come from? What is the Bible?

The Bible was spoken and revealed from God into the hearts of men that the Scriptures might be written and shared among God's children. Some of these writings are historical descriptions, prophetic writings, poetry and songs, wisdom, and letters. Although written by the hands of men, these writings were not written by the will of man, but were inspired and given by the power and will of God's Spirit. The Bible is the specific revelation by God about Himself, His work, and His plan for all of humanity so that we may love, trust, and obey Him. The whole Bible is breathed out by God, to make His people wise for salvation and to equip His people to lovingly teach, train, correct, and confront with God's truths (2 Timothy 3:10-17)

"And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, 20 knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. 21 For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit." 2 Peter 1:19-21

"For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty." 2 Peter 1:16

"The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law." Deuteronomy 29:29

Can we expect more books to be discovered or added to the Bible?

No. God has clearly spoken in the Scriptures and across early church history such that the current collection of recognized biblical books (canon) is complete. This process of recognizing the words of God comes through the recognition of the authorship as a biblical prophets or apostle, the self-attestation of the book within the Scriptures themselves, and their continuity with other books of the Bible.

Does the Bible have errors?

The original writings (autographs) have no errors at all. The ancient copies (manuscripts) we possess have small differences between them. These differences have primarily arisen from those who were copying and translating them. These differences have been recognized, described and corrected via a modern day comparison of the thousands of manuscripts to produce reliable Hebrew (Old Testament) and Greek (New Testament) compilations that have been reliably translated into many languages. None of the manuscript differences affect or speak to major theological issues but are most commonly mere grammatical issues. Comprehensive resources are available to explain the

process of translation and decisions made concerning the compilation of manuscripts.

Is the Bible trustworthy?

Yes. The Bible shows its own trustworthiness through its self-attestation in the lives of believers and its internal consistency over thousands of years at the hands of many writers. The Bible is clearly seen to be the most accurate book in all of human history through archaeological, historical, scientific, and documentary evidence. The biblical content clearly reveals that its author is God Himself. The Bible has the most and best manuscript evidence, seen in its thousands of copies that were written soon after its original writing and discovered in a multiplicity of geographic locations. No literary work in all of human history is comparable to the trustworthiness of the Bible.

"He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it." Titus 1:9

"For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. 13 And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account."

Hebrews 4:12-13

"The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces." Psalm 119:72

Is the KJV the best translation?

The King James Version (KJV) of the Bible is a good translation of the Bible. When it was written only a few manuscripts had been discovered, which limited the scope and accuracy of its translation. Since its translation hundreds of years ago, many additional archaeological discoveries have been made which provided thousands of more trustworthy manuscripts in the twentieth century. Many modern day translations have been written since the KJV translation, providing plenty of accurate biblical translations. Many people prefer the KJV because of their personal familiarity with it. Many others struggle with the KJV since it uses Old English, a language that is antiquated, no longer spoken, and difficult for many modern day English speakers to understand.

Many teachers give the false impression that the KJV is the only accurate Bible to be used. This is a touchy issue, one which must be handled with great care and humility. Such teachers may have genuine motives in preventing any corruption of the Biblical translations, but such opinions are often rooted in human pride and personal ignorance of the translation process and manuscript evidence. Those who prefer the KJV have the joy of continuing in their freedom of this preference but must humbly encourage and accept the fact than many prefer translations based on a more comprehensive collection of biblical manuscripts and translated into the common languages of the day.

Suggested book: The King James Only Controversy by James White

Why are there so many translations?

When translating the Bible, the translators must make decisions to translate either literally with a word for word approach (formal) or with a thought for thought approach (dynamic equivalence). These two approaches are both accurate and helpful. Some writings are written with more simple wording to recognize the differences in literary capabilities of different people and communities.

There are also other translations based upon a paraphrase approach. The paraphrase approach is when the Biblical text is not translated but is instead summarized and restated. Although such an approach may be helpful for children's Bibles and chronological Bible storying, it is not a good approach for maturing and literate Christians.

The English language is blessed to have many translations, but some languages possess only one translation. Many languages have yet to have the Bible translated. Although the multiple translations are extremely beneficial, we must recognize and be aware that there are translations that make unhelpful and heretical changes to the meaning of the biblical text.

There are modern translations that have removed gender specific language (NIV), removed references to Christ's deity (Jehovah's Witnesses' New World Translation), added books to the Bible (Catholicism), or subjugated the Bible to other books and authorities (Catholicism and Mormonism).

"Everyone who goes on ahead and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God. Whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son." 2 John 1:9

Which translation is the best?

Assuming the translation is faithful to the biblical text, the best translation is the one that you can easily read and understand. As some grow in their reading and comprehension abilities, they may find that more formal translations are most helpful to them in the process of study.

Are devotional guides and books ok?

Devotional guides and books can be helpful for Christians as an aid and tool to enhancing their personal study of God's Word. Devotional guides and books can also be a dangerous impediment to spiritual growth if Christians never grow in their own abilities to study Scripture. True Christians seek to mature and should never be content with solely a second hand experience with God as related through others. The Bible is clearly understood (perspicuity of the Bible), which means that it is intelligible through the enlightenment of the Holy

Spirit. If you struggle with your own personal and direct study of God's Word, pray to God and seek help from others in order to enhance and increase your ability to hear God's voice through the study of His Word.

How can I go about reading more of the Bible?

Make a plan. Make time. Be intentional. The reading of God's Word is essential for spiritual growth. The best plan is the one in which you will be able to follow. It could be as simple as picking a Bible book and reading through it one day at a time. It could involve a goal like reading through the entire New Testament in a year by reading one chapter per weekday. Many books, Bibles, and apps have a a plan for reading through the entire Bible in a year. We tend to prioritize that which we find valuable. Prioritize and make time for the reading of God's Word, it is of infinite value.

"the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb." Psalm 19:9-10

Is the New Testament more important than the Old Testament? What is their relationship?

All of Scripture is valuable and trustworthy. The Bible is one big story, not two separate sections (Hebrews 1:1-2, 2 Timothy 3:14-17). God speaks not only through his prophets, but also through the life of Christ. The expression that "the New is in the Old concealed and the the Old is in the New revealed" helps us to understand this relationship. We need to give equal attention to the

study of both the Old Testament and New Testament for "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8).

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." James 1:17

"Therefore I love your commandments above gold, above fine gold. Therefore I consider all your precepts to be right; I hate every false way." Psalm 119:127-128

How can I understand the meaning of the Bible?

The best way to understand the Bible is to spend time in it. Study Bibles, commentaries, and online resources (GotQuestions.org, BibleStudyTools.com, and BibleHub.com). Here are some helpful questions to ask yourself, and seek answers to, as you discover the meaning of the Scriptures:

- Who is writing this?
- Who is it being written to?
- What type of writing is this?
- What does the Scripture mean?
- What do we learn about God?
- What do we learn about God's work?
- What do we learn about ourselves?
- Why does this passage matter?
- How do I need to respond to and apply these truths to my life? (Is there a sin to avoid, a command to obey, an example to follow, a prayer to offer, a truth to

remember, an attitude to change, or a teaching to share?)

What does it mean to meditate on God's Word?

Meditation on God's Word is the filling up of one's heart and mind with the truths of God. As these truths are internalized, we are to spend more time in mental contemplation and processing over His truth in order to grow in our faith and to share our faith with others. Meditation happens when we read, listen to, pray over, learn, think, speak, write, and share about God's truths.

"Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. 8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success." Joshua 1:7-8

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." Romans 12:2

How can I share and speak God's truths lovingly to others?

Memorizing the Scripture is the best way to prepare to share God's truths. We should pray to God for opportunities and courage to witness. When we pray according to His will we know he hears and answers us (1 John 5:14-15), and we know it is His will that we be His witnesses (Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1:8). The more we meditate, study, and memorize God's Word, the more our hearts and lips will naturally and courageously bear witness to the glory and goodness of God.

We must remember that we have a responsibility to warn others of God's coming judgment (Ezekiel 3:17-19 & 33:7-9). When we share the Gospel we ought to communicate the truths concerning God as Creator (Colossians 1:16-17, Hebrews 4:13, 9:27), mankind's sinful rebellion (Romans 3:23), Christ's sacrifice and gift (Romans 6:23), and our need to respond to God as our Lord and Savior (Romans 10:9). The Gospel must be clearly spoken from our lips but also must be faithfully lived out in our lives, marriages, families, and workplaces (Ephesians 5 & 6).

Here are three great online resources to learn how to share your faith:

- The Way of the Master (Ray Comfort)
 www.livingwaters.com [our personal favorite!]
- Share Jesus without Fear (William Fay) www.sharejesuswithoutfear.com
- Steps to Peace with God (Billy Graham) www.peacewithgod.net

Many people fear the questions that may arise when witnessing, but it is ok to answer that "I do not know, but will find out." A great resource for discovering God's

answers to difficult questions is www.gotquestions.org. Finally we must always remember that our calling is not simply to make converts, but to make disciples, connecting believers into church fellowships where they can grow in their love and knowledge of God.

How can I recognize false teachers and false prophets?

The best way to recognize false teachers is to listen to their teachings and watch their lives (Deuteronomy 13:1-5, 18:15-22, Matthew 12:33-37, Galatians 1:8-9, 2 Peter 2, Jude 1:1-10, 2 John 1:9, James 3:1). If their teachings and lives do not line up with Scriptural truths, they may be false teachers, false prophets, or immature believers who do not need to be teaching or leading.

More help here: <u>www.trustworthyword.com/what-does-the-bible-say-about-false-teachers</u>

"But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction." 2 Peter 2:1

"But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed." Galatians 1:8-9

Steps to Studying the Bible

- 1. **Pray** before Studying the Bible ask God to open your mind and heart to His truths
- 2. **Read** the Bible follow a plan, be disciplined, seek accountability, use an audio bible such as found from <u>faithcomesbyhearing.com</u> ("Bible.is" as an app)
- 3. **Listen** to Faithful Teachings commit to regularly listen to your pastor's and others' teachings while diligently checking the Scripture to ensure what they say is true (Acts 17:11).
- 4. **Study** the Bible slowly and intentionally dig deep into the Scriptures
- 5. **Meditate** on the Bible remove distractions and seek the work of the Spirit for your understanding and application of these truths in your life
- 6. **Pray** through the Bible use the Scriptures to guide your prayer. The Psalms are the best for this, but you can pray as the Lord leads for conviction and turning from sin as well as for the increased maturity in Christ
- 7. **Memorize** the Bible write, speak out loud, draw, use games, acronyms, songs, and repetition, recite portions of verses and progress to the whole verse, keep accountability to your memorization goals
- 8. **Teach** the Bible find someone to mentor and teach, learning how to study the Bible, in teaching you will learn and grow most rapidly
- 9. **Evangelize** with the Bible the Bible is meant to be shared, focus on Gospel presentation passages to use in witnessing

10. **Pray** for God to remind and deepen you into the truths of God, asking Him to help you to obey His Word

Passages Emphasizing the Importance of the Study of the Bible

- Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. - 2 Timothy 2:15
- For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, 11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. Isaiah 55:10-11
- You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, 40 yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life. John 5:39-40
- Jesus said to them, "Is this not the reason you are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God?" - Mark 12:24
- You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, 11 my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. 12 Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,13 while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. 14 But as for you, continue in

what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it 15 and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. - 2 Timothy 3:10-17

- Command and teach these things. 12 Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. 13 Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching. 14 Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you. 15 Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress. 16 Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers. 1 Timothy 4:11-16
- Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. 22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. 24 For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. 25 But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no

- hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing. James 1:21-25
- take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, Ephesians 6:17
- I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, 19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book. Revelation 22:18-19
- For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. 13 And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account. - Hebrews 4:12-13
- If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness, 4 he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words, which produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, 5 and constant friction among people who are deprayed in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain. 1 Timothy 6:3-5
- Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he

appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. - Hebrews 1:1-2

Top 10 Bible Study Tips

www.trustworthyword.com/bible-study-tips

"Half our fears arise from neglect of the Bible." Charles H. Spurgeon

1. Pick a Plan

Ever hear the expression, "a goal without a plan is just a wish"? If you want to draw closer to the Lord through the Bible you've got to make a plan that is "SMART" or 1)Specific, 2)Measurable, 3)Achievable, 4)Realistic, and 5)Timely

2. Be Realistic, Keep It Simple

Consider your past and present situations as you evaluate your goals for the future!

3. Set a Time

Are you a morning person or an evening person? Do you need to wake up earlier or block off a particular time of day a little better?

4. Pick, Prepare, & Protect a Place

Where is a spot (chair, room, car) where you avoid distractions while being focused on reading or hearing God's Word?

5. Make Reminders

What will help you to remember daily? Leaving your Bible or devotional out in a particular spot? Sticky note? Dry eraser on the mirror or fridge? Phone app notification? Repeating calendar event?

6. Keep Track of Your Progress

Use a bookmark, check off a reading plan, use a chart to see what you've accomplished!

7. Have a Catch-Up Plan, Readjust If Necessary

Block off time (evening, weekend, a day per month) to pick up when you inevitably miss a reading or day. Find yourself getting too far behind, adjust your goals to be more realistic and achievable or stretch out your goal's end date.

8. Create Accountability

Aim for the same goal with a child, spouse, friend, or family member. Share your goal and progress or setbacks online or with others for encouragement. Confess your failures or struggles to receive wisdom or prayer.

9. Use Tools for the Journey

Whether it is highlighters, gel pens, or a commentary, concordance, atlas, or app - find practical resources that make your journey more enjoyable and profitable.

10. Celebrate Small Wins Along the Way

Make celebratory steps and incentives as you keep up for a month, finish a book, or complete your next chapter. Make an end of the year prize that you look forward to using a small reward!

"The vigor of our spiritual life will be in exact proportion to the place held by the Bible in our life and thoughts." George Mueller

10 Tips for Better Bible Study

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Jonathan Carl



Jonathan Carl grew up in the great state of Texas as the oldest of six kids. He graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point and served in the U.S. Army as a tanker with a combat tour in Iraq in the early 2000s. He had the joy of journeying to Kentucky where he met

and married his wonderful wife Brittney. Several years later he became the lead pastor at South Fork Baptist Church where he has served over a decade. He enjoyed

the opportunities to study and earn his Master of Divinity and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in Evangelism & Missions from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Jonathan & Brittney have four daughters (Sophia, Lydia, Alia & Mia) with whom they enjoy spending every spare minute they can.



