

180 Day Reading Plan

A Guided Tour of the Bible

This reading plan offers a kind of bird's-eye-view of the Bible.

The daily readings consist of 180 selected passages, including at least one chapter from each of the Bible's 66 books. You can read the chapter in less than 15 minutes per day.

This "Guided Tour" is exactly that, a guide-assisted tour of the Bible's high points. Such a plan is no substitute for mastering the whole Bible, of course, but it may help lower barriers and point the way down a path for further study. Think of it as an introductory tour through a great art museum. You won't get to see every painting in the museum, but you will learn the basic layout, and may also acquire a taste for art that will entice you to return again and again.

With a few exceptions, the Biblical material appears in rough chronological order. You will read the psalms attributed to David as you read about David's life. You will read the prophets and get a glimpse of their history. Portions from the Gospels, too, are interspersed, giving a composite picture of Jesus' life on earth; and Paul's letters are scattered throughout the record of his life. This arrangement should help convey the Bible's "plot."

Since this "Guided Tour" is arranged in 180 separate readings, most people will find it convenient to read one designated passage each day. If you miss a few days, don't worry. Just resume reading when you can.

Time Commitment: 180 Days

Goal: To present underlying story of the Bible

The Plot Unveiled

- Day 1. Genesis 1: A Book of Beginnings
- Day 2. Genesis 2: One Shining Moment
- Day 3. Genesis 3: The Crash
- Day 4. Genesis 4: Crouching at the Door
- Day 5. Genesis 7: Under Water
- Day 6. Genesis 8: The Rainbow
- Day 7. Genesis 15: The Plan
- Day 8. Genesis 19: A Catastrophe Sent from God
- Day 9. Genesis 22: Final Exam
- Day 10. Genesis 27: Jacob Gets the Blessing
- Day 11. Genesis 28: Something Undeserved
- Day 12. Genesis 37: Family Battles
- Day 13. Genesis 41: Behind the Scenes
- Day 14. Genesis 45: A Long Forgiveness

Birth of a Nation

- Day 15. Exodus 3: Time for Action
- Day 16. Exodus 10-11: The Ten Plagues
- Day 17. Exodus 14: Miracle at the Red Sea
- Day 18. Exodus 20: The Ten Commandments
- Day 19. Exodus 32: The Dream Dies
- Day 20. Leviticus 26: Legal Matters
- Day 21. Numbers 11: Trials in the Desert
- Day 22. Numbers 14: Open Mutiny
- Day 23. Deuteronomy 4: Never Forget
- Day 24. Deuteronomy 8: Dangers of Success
- Day 25. Deuteronomy 28: Loud and Clear
- Day 26. Joshua 2: New Spies, New Spirit

- Day 27. Joshua 6: Strange Tactics
- Day 28. Joshua 7: Slow Learners
- Day 29. Joshua 24: Home at Last
- Day 30. Judges 6: Unlikely Leader
- Day 31. Judges 7: Military Upset
- Day 32. Judges 16: Superman's Flaws
- Day 33. Ruth 1: Tough Love

The Golden Age

- Day 34. 1 Samuel 3: Transition Team
- Day 35. 1 Samuel 16: Tale of Two Kings
- Day 36. Psalm 23: A Shepherd's Song
- Day 37. 1 Samuel 17: Giant-Killer
- Day 38. Psalm 19: Outdoor Lessons
- Day 39. 1 Samuel 20: Jonathan's Loyalty
- Day 40. Psalm 27: Ups and Downs
- Day 41. 2 Samuel 6: King of Passion
- Day 42. 1 Chronicles 17: God's House
- Day 43. Psalm 103: The Goodness of God
- Day 44. 2 Samuel 11: Adultery and Murder
- Day 45. 2 Samuel 12: Caught in the Act
- Day 46. Psalm 51: True Confession
- Day 47. Psalm 139: David's Spiritual Secret
- Day 48. 1 Kings 3: Raw Talent
- Day 49. 1 Kings 8: High-water Mark
- Day 50. Psalm 84: Home Sweet Home
- Day 51. Proverbs 4: Life Advice
- Day 52. Proverbs 10: One-liners
- Day 53. Proverbs on Words: Verbal Dynamite
- Day 54. Song of Songs 2: Love Story
- Day 55. Ecclesiastes 3: A Time for Everything

The Northern Kingdom

- Day 56. 1 Kings 17: The Prophets
- Day 57. 1 Kings 18: Mountaintop Showdown
- Day 58. 2 Kings 5: Double Portion
- Day 59. Joel 2: Word Power
- Day 60. Jonah 3-4: Beloved Enemies
- Day 61. Amos 4: Street-Corner Prophet
- Day 62. Hosea 1, 3: Parable of Love
- Day 63. Hosea 11: Wounded Lover
- Day 64. 2 Kings 17: Postmortem

The Southern Kingdom

- Day 65. 2 Chronicles 20: Back in Jerusalem
- Day 66. Micah 6: Pollution Spreads
- Day 67. 2 Chronicles 30: Hezekiah's Festival
- Day 68. Isaiah 6: Power behind the Throne
- Day 69. Isaiah 25: Eloquent Hope
- Day 70. 2 Chronicles 32: Battlefield Lessons
- Day 71. Nahum 1, 3: Enemy Justice
- Day 72. Zephaniah 3: Rotten Ruling Class
- Day 73. 2 Kings 22: Boy Wonder
- Day 74. Jeremiah 2: National Adultery
- Day 75. Jeremiah 15: Balking Prophet
- Day 76. Jeremiah 31: Israel's Future
- Day 77. Jeremiah 38: Prophet's Perils
- Day 78. Habakkuk 1: Debating God
- Day 79. Lamentations 3: Poet In Shock
- Day 80. Obadiah: No Room to Gloat

Starting Over

- Day 81. Ezekiel 1: In Exile
- Day 82. Ezekiel 2-3: Toughening Up
- Day 83. Ezekiel 4: Write Large and Shout
- Day 84. Ezekiel 37: Resurrection Time
- Day 85. Daniel 1: Enemy Employers
- Day 86. Daniel 3: Ordeal by Fire

- Day 87. Daniel 5: Like Father, Like Son
- Day 88. Daniel 6: Daniel's Longest Night
- Day 89. Ezra 3: Home at Last
- Day 90. Haggai 1: A Needed Boost
- Day 91. Zechariah 8: Raising Sights
- Day 92. Nehemiah 2: A Man for All Seasons
- Day 93. Nehemiah 8: Mourning into Joy
- Day 94. Esther 4: A Race's Survival
- Day 95. Malachi 2: Low-grade Disappointment

Cries of Pain

- Day 96. Job 1-2: Is God Unfair?
- Day 97. Job 38: God Speaks to Job
- Day 98. Job 42: Happy Ending
- Day 99. Isaiah 40: Who's in Charge?
- Day 100. Isaiah 52: The Suffering Servant
- Day 101. Isaiah 53: Wounded Healer
- Day 102. Isaiah 55: The End of It All

A Surprising Messiah

- Day 103. Luke 1: One Final Hope
- Day 104. Luke 2: No Fear
- Day 105. Mark 1: Immediate Impact
- Day 106. Mark 2: Signal Fires of Opposition
- Day 107. John 3: Late-Night Rendezvous
- Day 108. Mark 3: Miracles and Magic
- Day 109. Mark 4: Hard Soil
- Day 110. Mark 5: Jesus and Illness
- Day 111. Matthew 5: Inflammatory Word
- Day 112. Matthew 6: Sermon on the Mount
- Day 113. Matthew 13: Kingdom Tales
- Day 114. Mark 6: Contrast in Power
- Day 115. Luke 16: Of Two Worlds
- Day 116. Luke 12: Jesus on Money
- Day 117. Luke 18: Underdogs

Responses to Jesus

- Day 118. Luke 15: Master Storyteller
- Day 119. John 6: Food that Endures
- Day 120. Mark 7: Poles Apart
- Day 121. Matthew 18: Out of Bondage
- Day 122. John 10: No Secrets
- Day 123. Mark 8: Turning Point
- Day 124. Mark 9: Slow Learners
- Day 125. Luke 10: Mission Improbable
- Day 126. Mark 10: Servant Leadership
- Day 127. Mark 11: Opposition Heats Up
- Day 128. Mark 12: Baiting Jesus
- Day 129. Mark 13: A Day to Dread
- Day 130. Mark 14: A Scent of Doom

Final Days

- Day 131. John 14: One Final Meal Together
- Day 132. John 15: Vital Link
- Day 133. John 16: Grief into Joy
- Day 134. John 17: Commissioning
- Day 135. Matthew 26: Appointment with Destiny
- Day 136. Matthew 27: No Justice
- Day 137. Mark 15: The Last Temptation
- Day 138. Matthew 28: A Rumor of Life
- Day 139. John 20: The Rumor Spreads
- Day 140. Luke 24: The Final Link

The Word Spreads

- Day 141. Acts 1: Departure
- Day 142. Acts 2: Explosion
- Day 143. Acts 5: Shock Waves

Final Days

- Day 144. Acts 9: About-face
- Day 145. Galatians 3: Legalism
- Day 146. Acts 16: Detour
- Day 147. Philippians 2: Downward Mobility
- Day 148. Acts 17: Mixed Results
- Day 149. 1 Thessalonians 3-4: Preparing for the End
- Day 150. 2 Thessalonians 2: Rumor Control
- Day 151. 1 Corinthians 13: The Love Chapter
- Day 152. 1 Corinthians 15: The Last Enemy
- Day 153. 2 Corinthians 4: Baked Dirt
- Day 154. 2 Corinthians 12: Boasting of Weakness

Paul's Legacy

- Day 155. Romans 3: Remedy
- Day 156. Romans 7: Limits of the Law
- Day 157. Romans 8: Spirit Life
- Day 158. Romans 12: Down-To-Earth Problems
- Day 159. Acts 26: Unexpected Passage
- Day 160. Acts 27: Perfect Storm
- Day 161. Acts 28: Rome at Last
- Day 162. Ephesians 2: Prison Letter
- Day 163. Ephesians 3: Success Story
- Day 164. Colossians 1: Spanning the Gap
- Day 165. Philemon: A Personal Favor
- Day 166. Titus 2: Paul's Troubleshooter
- Day 167. 1 Timothy 1: Growth Pains
- Day 168. 2 Timothy 2: Final Words

Vital Letters

- Day 169. Hebrews 2: The Great Descent
- Day 170. Hebrews 11: What Is True Faith?
- Day 171. Hebrews 12: Marathon Race
- Day 172. James 1: Walk the Talk
- Day 173. 1 Peter 1: Converted Coward
- Day 174. 2 Peter 1: Hidden Dangers
- Day 175. Jude: Sounding the Alarm
- Day 176. 1 John 3: Merest Christianity
- Day 177. 2 and 3 John: Pesky Deceivers
- Day 178. Revelation 1: The Final Word
- Day 179. Revelation 12: Another Side of History
- Day 180. Revelation 21: An End and a Beginning