

# Bible Reading Principles

## Grasping the overall message

“The Holy Bible” just means the book that is set apart from every other book in the world. The Bible is called “God’s Word” because it testifies to itself and to us that it is inspired by God and is true (see Jn. 17:17; 2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pt.1:19-21). Although there are 66 books, it’s called one book because it tells one story about God’s gracious plan of salvation in Jesus Christ. Therefore, always look for the gospel of Christ, for that is the ultimate point of every story and passage in Scripture (see John 5:39, Luke 24:27,44-45).

## Understanding the different books

To take the Bible literally you must first take into consideration what type of literature you are reading. For example, the Proverbs are not universal principles, but general principles. Other books like Revelation rely on symbolism and imagery to make a profound point. And each book was written with a specific purpose. Matthew presents Jesus as the King. Mark presents Jesus as the Servant. Luke emphasizes Jesus’ humanity as the Son of Man, while John emphasizes Jesus’ divinity as the Son of God.

## Taking the most effective approach

If you’re not intentional about how you read a text, then it just becomes about getting the reading done instead of getting the truth of God deep into your heart. Ask God for help. Read slow. Jot down questions that arise and verses that stand out. Remember to look at the passage in its context and compare more difficult passages with easier ones on the same topic for more clarity. In other words, let Scripture interpret Scripture. Always be open to how God wants to change you through your reading and remember that God is a rewarder of all those who diligently seek Him.



Book by Book

# Bible Reading Plan

Read the entire Bible in a year at your own pace

*It is written,  
Man shall not live by bread alone, but by  
every word that comes from the mouth of God.*

Matthew 4:4

With a spiritual theme for each month of the year

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# Bible Reading Progress

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly ..." Col.3:16

## January - *Walking by faith*

- Genesis    Nahum    Habakkuk  
 Zephaniah    Romans

## February - *Zealous for good works*

- Exodus    Haggai    Zechariah  
 1,2 Timothy    Titus

## March - *Holding fast to Jesus Christ*

- Leviticus    Amos    Obadiah  
 Hebrews    2 Peter    Jude

## April - *Standing in the freedom of Christ*

- Numbers    Ruth  
 Galatians    Ephesians

## May - *Knowing the joy of the King*

- Deuteronomy    Micah  
 Matthew    Philippians    Colossians

## June - *Loving God and others*

- Psalms 1-75    Song of Songs    Hosea  
 1,2 Thessalonians    Philemon

## July - *Growing in wisdom*

- Psalms 76-150    Proverbs    Ecclesiastes  
 James

## August - *Serving the true and living God*

- Judges    1,2 Samuel    1,2 Kings  
 Jonah    Mark

## September - *Building up the church of God*

- 1,2 Chronicles    Ezra    Nehemiah  
 Isaiah    Malachi    1 Corinthians

## October - *Persevering through suffering*

- Esther    Job    Jeremiah    Lamentations  
 2 Corinthians    1 Peter

## November - *Empowered by the Spirit*

- Ezekiel    Joel  
 Luke    Acts

## December - *Overcoming by faith in Christ*

- Joshua    Daniel  
 John    1,2,3 John    Revelation