

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