

A Beginner's Bible Reading Plan

Survey the Bible in one year, reading only 15 verses a day!

What parts of the Bible will I read? *Readings are included from every book of the Bible. This plan includes about 4472 key verses out of 31,103 verses in the whole Bible. (That's over 14% or 1/7th of the Bible.) Passages are arranged mostly in chronological order, with 8 months of Old Testament readings and 4 months in the New Testament.*

How were the verses chosen? *Passages were chosen that (a) trace the big story of the whole Bible with some of its central themes, (b) reflect the literary and topical diversity of the Bible, and (c) avoid some potentially embarrassing "adult content."*

Who should use this reading plan? *I created this guide for my 5-year-old, who is an eager reader. (She has been thoroughly puzzled by some of the passages she's read—such as Ezekiel 1. That's okay. I'm puzzled by some of the same passages!) But this plan is equally well-suited for several kinds of adults—those new to the Bible, slower readers, or anyone who wants to survey highlights of the Bible at a pace that gives plenty of time for meditation. This plan does not take the place of plans that cover the whole Bible.*

What is the suggested reading schedule? *There are 25 readings each month, averaging less than 15 verses a day. Each monthly handout can be completed by following one of these suggested schedules: (1) Read 6 days a week until finished; (2) Read 5 days a week plus do one 5-reading day each month. Since you use a new handout each month, you will be alerted at the end of each month if you are falling behind. Should you fall behind, readings are short enough that you can easily read two in one day until you catch up.*

When can I begin? *There are 12 reading guides—one for each month. Months are unnamed on the handouts, so you can begin any time of the year. Why not start today?*

A Beginner's Bible Reading Plan – Month 1

Name: _____ Month: _____

Daily (5 or 6 days a week):

1. **Pray**—Ask God to help you understand and believe what you are about to read.
2. **Read and mark**—Read one passage from the list below. Then put a mark in the box beside the reading.
3. **Think**—For example: What new thing did I learn? What puzzles me? How does this passage fit into the big story of the Bible? What does it teach about God and his plans? Is there a reason to praise God? A promise to claim? An example to follow? A sin to avoid? A command to obey? An idea for loving God or my neighbor? A prayer to pray?
4. **Pray**—Talk to God about what you read.
5. **Share**—Tell a friend (or your parents) one thing that you learned. Or ask them one question about what you read.

Extra (once a month if needed):

Read 5 passages in a row, all at once! Remember to put a mark beside all five readings.

God creates the world, but humans sin

- Genesis 1:1-19..... Creation week—Days 1-4
- Genesis 1:20 – 2:3..... Creation week—Days 5-7
- Genesis 2:4-17..... The Garden of Eden
- Genesis 2:18-25..... The creation of Eve
- Genesis 3:1-13..... The Fall—Adam and Eve sin
- Genesis 3:14-24..... The Fall—God's response
- Genesis 4:1-16..... Cain murders Abel

God destroys and recreates the world, but humans sin again

- Genesis 6:5-22..... The Flood—God calls Noah
- Genesis 7:11-8:1..... The Flood—Everything on the dry land dies
- Genesis 9:8-19..... The Flood—God's covenant with all flesh
- Genesis 11:1-9..... The tower of Babel

God chooses a family to bless the world

- Genesis 12:1-8..... God promises to bless the whole earth through Abram
- Genesis 15:1-20..... God's covenant with Abram
- Genesis 17:1-8; 15-16; 21:1-3..... Abram and Sarai receive new names; Isaac is born
- Genesis 22:1-18..... God tests Abraham's faith
- Genesis 25:19-34..... Esau sells his birthright to Jacob
- Genesis 27:1-20..... Jacob steals Esau's blessing—Deception begun
- Genesis 27:21-40..... Jacob steals Esau's blessing—Deception completed
- Genesis 27:41-45; 28:1-5..... Jacob steals Esau's blessing—Deception's consequences
- Genesis 28:10-22..... Jacob dreams of a ladder to heaven
- Genesis 29:15-30..... Jacob marries Rachel and Leah
- Genesis 32:1-12..... Jacob prepares to meet Esau
- Genesis 32:22-32..... Jacob wrestles with God
- Genesis 33:1-7; 18-20..... Jacob meets Esau and returns to Canaan
- Genesis 37:1-13..... Joseph's dreams

This plan has 25 readings per month, with about 15 verses per reading. Month 1 has 350 verses—an average of 14 verses per reading.

A Beginner's Bible Reading Plan – Month 2

Name: _____ Month: _____

Daily (5 or 6 days a week):

1. **Pray**—Ask God to help you understand and believe what you are about to read.
2. **Read and mark**—Read one passage from the list below. Then put a mark in the box beside the reading.
3. **Think**—For example: What new thing did I learn? What puzzles me? How does this passage fit into the big story of the Bible? What does it teach about God and his plans? Is there a reason to praise God? A promise to claim? An example to follow? A sin to avoid? A command to obey? An idea for loving God or my neighbor? A prayer to pray?
4. **Pray**—Talk to God about what you read.
5. **Share**—Tell a friend (or your parents) one thing that you learned. Or ask them one question about what you read.

Extra (once a month if needed):

Read 5 passages in a row, all at once! Remember to put a mark beside all five readings.

God chooses a family to bless the world (continued)

- Genesis 37:18-36.....Joseph is sold by his brothers
- Genesis 41:1, 8-24.....Pharaoh's dreams
- Genesis 41:25-33, 46-49, 56-57....Pharaoh sets Joseph over the land of Egypt
- Genesis 42:1-17.....Joseph's brothers come to Egypt
- Genesis 42:18-26, 35-38.....Joseph's brothers find money in their sacks
- Genesis 45:1-15.....Joseph reveals himself to his brothers
- Genesis 46:1-7, 29-30.....Jacob and his family move to Egypt
- Genesis 49:1-2, 8-10, 28; 50:22-26 Jacob blesses his sons; Joseph dies

God delivers a nation to bless the world

- Exodus 1:8-17.....Egypt oppresses the Israelites
- Exodus 2:1-10, 23-25.....Moses is born
- Exodus 3:1-20.....God calls Moses to bring the Israelites out of Egypt
- Exodus 7:1-13.....Moses and Aaron go to Pharaoh
- Exodus 7:14-24.....God begins sending plagues on Egypt
- Exodus 12:1-14.....God commands the Israelites to observe the Passover
- Exodus 12:21, 26-32, 40-41.....God kills the Egyptian firstborns and the Israelites leave Egypt
- Exodus 14:5-10, 13-16, 21-31.....The Israelites cross the Red Sea
- Exodus 15:1-10.....The song of Moses, Miriam, and the Israelites at the Red Sea (1)
- Exodus 15:11-21.....The song of Moses, Miriam, and the Israelites at the Red Sea (2)
- Exodus 16:2-4, 11-15, 31-35.....The Israelites grumble and God sends manna

God gives his nation a covenant

- Exodus 19:1-6, 16-20.....The Israelites arrive at Mount Sinai
- Exodus 20:1-20.....God speaks the Ten Commandments
- Exodus 25:1-10, 21-22.....God commands Moses to build him a tabernacle to dwell in
- Exodus 32:1-20.....The Israelites worship a golden calf
- Exodus 34:1-10, 27-28.....God (“The LORD” or “Yahweh”) renews his covenant
- Exodus 40:1-9, 12-16, 34-38.....The tabernacle is completed and filled with God's glory

This plan has 25 readings per month, with about 15 verses per reading. Month 2 has 356 verses—an average of 14.24 verses per reading.

A Beginner's Bible Reading Plan – Month 3

Name: _____ Month: _____

Daily (5 or 6 days a week):

1. **Pray**—Ask God to help you understand and believe what you are about to read.
2. **Read and mark**—Read one passage from the list below. Then put a mark in the box beside the reading.
3. **Think**—For example: What new thing did I learn? What puzzles me? How does this passage fit into the big story of the Bible? What does it teach about God and his plans? Is there a reason to praise God? A promise to claim? An example to follow? A sin to avoid? A command to obey? An idea for loving God or my neighbor? A prayer to pray?
4. **Pray**—Talk to God about what you read.
5. **Share**—Tell a friend (or your parents) one thing that you learned. Or ask them one question about what you read.

Extra (once a month if needed):

Read 5 passages in a row, all at once! Remember to put a mark beside all five readings.

God gives his nation a covenant (continued)

- Leviticus 4:27-31; 17:10-16.....Laws about sin offerings and against eating blood
- Leviticus 11:1-19.....Laws about clean and unclean animals (1)
- Leviticus 11:20-25, 41-47.....Laws about clean and unclean animals (2)
- Leviticus 16:1-19.....The Day of Atonement (1)
- Leviticus 16:20-34.....The Day of Atonement (2)
- Leviticus 19:1-4, 9-18.....Be holy and love your neighbor as yourself
- Leviticus 24:10-23.....Punishment for blasphemy and “eye for eye” law
- Numbers 1-3, 44-54.....A census of Israel and the duties of the tribe of Levi
- Numbers 9:15-23; 10:33-36.....Israel, led by the cloud of the LORD, leaves Mount Sinai
- Numbers 13:1-3, 25-33.....Spies are sent into Canaan and bring back a bad report
- Numbers 14:1-4, 11-19.....Israel refuses to enter Canaan and Moses prays for them
- Numbers 14:20-35.....God pardons but Israel will wander in the wilderness for 40 years
- Numbers 20:2-13.....Israel grumbles about water and Moses strikes the rock
- Deuteronomy 6:1-15, 20-25.....The greatest commandment: “Love the LORD your God”
- Deuteronomy 12:1-11.....God will choose a special place of worship in the promised land
- Deuteronomy 18:15-22.....God promises to raise up another prophet like Moses (Jesus!)
- Deuteronomy 28:1-14.....Covenant blessings
- Deuteronomy 28:15-19, 45-51, 58-63 Covenant curses
- Deuteronomy 30:1-5, 15-20.....God promises to restore Israel and calls them to choose life
- Deuteronomy 31:1-8, 23-29.....God chooses Joshua and Moses writes the Book of the Law
- Deuteronomy 31:30; 32:1-6, 15-20, 39-47 Moses' song of witness, foretelling Israel's future
- Deuteronomy 34:1-12.....The death of Moses
- Psalm 90:1-17.....A prayer of Moses, the man of God

God gives his nation a land

- Joshua 1:1-11.....God encourages Joshua
- Joshua 2:1-24.....Rahab and the spies

This plan has 25 readings per month, with about 15 verses per reading. Month 3 has 371 verses—an average of 14.84 verses per reading.

A Beginner's Bible Reading Plan – Month 4

Name: _____ Month: _____

Daily (5 or 6 days a week):

1. **Pray**—Ask God to help you understand and believe what you are about to read.
2. **Read and mark**—Read one passage from the list below. Then put a mark in the box beside the reading.
3. **Think**—For example: What new thing did I learn? What puzzles me? How does this passage fit into the big story of the Bible? What does it teach about God and his plans? Is there a reason to praise God? A promise to claim? An example to follow? A sin to avoid? A command to obey? An idea for loving God or my neighbor? A prayer to pray?
4. **Pray**—Talk to God about what you read.
5. **Share**—Tell a friend (or your parents) one thing that you learned. Or ask them one question about what you read.

Extra (once a month if needed):

Read 5 passages in a row, all at once! Remember to put a mark beside all five readings.

God gives his nation a land (continued)

- Joshua 3:7-17..... Crossing the Jordan River
- Joshua 6:1-5, 12-21..... Capturing Jericho
- Joshua 7:1-12, 19-26..... Defeat at Ai and Achan's sin
- Joshua 11:10-23..... Israel conquers northern Canaan and war ends
- Joshua 24:1-15..... Renewal of the covenant (1)
- Joshua 24:16-28..... Renewal of the covenant (2)

God punishes and delivers his sinful nation

- Judges 2:6-23..... Joshua dies and Israel's cycles of failure are summarized
- Judges 6:1-6, 11-14..... God calls Gideon to deliver Israel from the Midianites
- Judges 7:1-8, 19-23..... God helps Israel defeat the Midianites
- Judges 13:1-7, 24-25..... God chooses Samson to deliver Israel from the Philistines
- Judges 16:4-22..... Samson tells Delilah the secret of his strength
- Judges 16:23-31..... Samson wins a final victory
- Ruth 1:1-8, 16-22..... Naomi's family flees a famine and Ruth returns with Naomi
- Ruth 2:1-13; 4:13-17..... Ruth meets and marries Boaz, becoming the ancestor of David

God gives his nation a king

- 1 Samuel 1:1-11, 19-20, 24-28..... Hannah prays for Samuel and gives him to the LORD
- 1 Samuel 3:1-21..... God calls Samuel to be his prophet
- 1 Samuel 10:17-25; 15:1-9..... Saul is proclaimed king, but disobeys God
- 1 Samuel 15:10-28..... The LORD rejects Saul as king
- 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23:1-6... Samuel anoints David as king and “The LORD is my shepherd”
- 1 Samuel 17:1-11, 32-37..... David defeats Goliath in the name of the LORD (1)
- 1 Samuel 17:38-51..... David defeats Goliath in the name of the LORD (2)
- 1 Samuel 18:6-16..... Saul tries to kill David
- 1 Samuel 24:1-20..... David spares Saul's life
- 1 Samuel 31:1-7..... Saul dies
- Psalm 34:1-22..... A prayer of David, when he was running from his enemies

This plan has 25 readings per month, with about 15 verses per reading. Month 4 has 385 verses—an average of 15.4 verses per reading.

A Beginner's Bible Reading Plan – Month 5

Name: _____ Month: _____

Daily (5 or 6 days a week):

1. **Pray**—Ask God to help you understand and believe what you are about to read.
2. **Read and mark**—Read one passage from the list below. Then put a mark in the box beside the reading.
3. **Think**—For example: What new thing did I learn? What puzzles me? How does this passage fit into the big story of the Bible? What does it teach about God and his plans? Is there a reason to praise God? A promise to claim? An example to follow? A sin to avoid? A command to obey? An idea for loving God or my neighbor? A prayer to pray?
4. **Pray**—Talk to God about what you read.
5. **Share**—Tell a friend (or your parents) one thing that you learned. Or ask them one question about what you read.

Extra (once a month if needed):

Read 5 passages in a row, all at once! Remember to put a mark beside all five readings.

God gives his nation a king (continued)

- 2 Samuel 5:1-12.....David is anointed King over all Israel
- 2 Samuel 6:1-19, 23.....The ark of the covenant is brought into Jerusalem
- 1 Chronicles 16:1-22.....David's song of thanks after the ark arrives (1)
- 1 Chronicles 16:23-36.....David's song of thanks after the ark arrives (2)
- 2 Samuel 7:1-17.....God's covenant with David
- Psalm 19:1-14.....David celebrates God's creation and God's law

God punishes and delivers his sinful king

- 2 Samuel 11:1-5, 14-15, 26-27.....David's sins with Bathsheba and Uriah
- 2 Samuel 12:1-13, 24-25.....Nathan rebukes David and Solomon is born
- Psalm 32:1-11.....David celebrates God's forgiveness
- 2 Samuel 15:1-6, 13-16, 30.....Absalom conspires against David
- 2 Samuel 18:1, 5-16, 19-21, 31-33...Absalom is killed and David mourns
- 2 Samuel 22:1-16.....David's psalm of deliverance (1)
- 2 Samuel 22:17-31.....David's psalm of deliverance (2)
- 2 Samuel 22:32-51.....David's psalm of deliverance (3)
- 1 Chronicles 21:1-8, 14-17, 28-30; 22:1-5 David sins with the census but God answers him
- Psalm 103:1-22.....David blesses the LORD for his steadfast love
- Psalm 139:1-24.....David ponders how God searches and knows him

God blesses his nation as he promised in his covenant

- 1 Kings 1:28-40; 2:10-12.....Solomon is crowned king and David dies
- 1 Kings 3:3-15.....God gives Solomon great wisdom
- 1 Kings 3:16-28.....Solomon shows his great wisdom
- 1 Kings 6:1, 7, 11-14, 19-22Solomon builds the temple
- 2 Chronicles 5:2-14.....Solomon brings the ark of the covenant into the temple
- 2 Chronicles 6:12-23, 34-42; 7:1-6..Solomon prays and the LORD's glory fills the temple

God give his nation wisdom and psalms

- Proverbs 3:1-24.....“Trust in the LORD” and “Blessed is the one who finds wisdom”
- Proverbs 6:6-11, 16-22.....“Go to the ant” and “Six things that the LORD hates”

This plan has 25 readings per month, with about 15 verses per reading. Month 5 has 409 verses—an average of 16.4 verses per reading.

A Beginner's Bible Reading Plan – Month 6

Name: _____ Month: _____

Daily (5 or 6 days a week):

1. **Pray**—Ask God to help you understand and believe what you are about to read.
2. **Read and mark**—Read one passage from the list below. Then put a mark in the box beside the reading.
3. **Think**—For example: What new thing did I learn? What puzzles me? How does this passage fit into the big story of the Bible? What does it teach about God and his plans? Is there a reason to praise God? A promise to claim? An example to follow? A sin to avoid? A command to obey? An idea for loving God or my neighbor? A prayer to pray?
4. **Pray**—Talk to God about what you read.
5. **Share**—Tell a friend (or your parents) one thing that you learned. Or ask them one question about what you read.

Extra (once a month if needed):

Read 5 passages in a row, all at once! Remember to put a mark beside all five readings.

God give his nation wisdom and psalms (continued)

- Proverbs 15:1-5; 22:1-6..... “A soft answer” and “A good name”
- Ecclesiastes 1:1-14..... “All is vanity and a striving after the wind”
- Ecclesiastes 12:1-14..... “Remember... your Creator in the days of your youth”
- Song of Songs 2:8-17; 8:6-7..... “The voice of my beloved” and “Love is strong as death”
- Job 1:1-22..... Satan tests Job
- Job 3:1-3, 11, 20-26 Job wishes he was never born
- Job 11:1-6, 13-16, 20..... Zophar accuses Job of sin
- Job 38:1-4; 40:1-9..... The LORD questions Job
- Job 42:1-17..... The LORD blesses the latter days of Job more than his beginning
- Psalm 1:1-6..... “Blessed is the man who... delight[s] in the law of the LORD”
- Psalm 42:1-11..... “Why are you cast down, O my soul?”
- Psalm 91:1-16..... “He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High”
- Psalm 100:1-5; 148:1-14..... “Make a joyful noise” and “Praise the LORD!”

God deals with his sinful nation—Part 1: The northern kingdom, Israel

- 1 Kings 11:1-13, 29-31, 42-43..... Solomon sins and dies
- 1 Kings 12:1, 16-20, 25-31..... The kingdom is divided and Jeroboam builds golden calves
- 1 Kings 16:29-34; 17:1-7..... Ahab provokes the LORD to anger and Elijah says rain will stop
- 1 Kings 18:1-2; 17-29..... Elijah says it will rain again and calls for a contest with Baal
- 1 Kings 18:30-46..... The LORD proves that he is God, sending fire and a great rain
- 2 Kings 2:1-14..... Elijah is taken to heaven and Elisha takes his place as prophet
- 2 Kings 5:1-14..... Naaman is healed of his leprosy
- Jonah 3:1-5, 10; 4:4-11 God spares Nineveh and teaches Jonah about mercy
- Amos 5:1-3, 14-15, 18-24..... “Fallen... is the virgin Israel” and “The day of the LORD”
- Hosea 11:1-11..... “Out of Egypt I called my son”
- 2 Kings 17:6-23..... Israel is exiled from their own land to Assyria

God deals with his sinful nation—Part 2: The southern kingdom, Judah

- 2 Kings 18:1-8, 13, 28-35..... Hezekiah trusts in the LORD and Assyria attacks Judah

This plan has 25 readings per month, with about 15 verses per reading. Month 6 has 353 verses—an average of 14.1 verses per reading.

A Beginner's Bible Reading Plan – Month 7

Name: _____ Month: _____

Daily (5 or 6 days a week):

1. **Pray**—Ask God to help you understand and believe what you are about to read.
2. **Read and mark**—Read one passage from the list below. Then put a mark in the box beside the reading.
3. **Think**—For example: What new thing did I learn? What puzzles me? How does this passage fit into the big story of the Bible? What does it teach about God and his plans? Is there a reason to praise God? A promise to claim? An example to follow? A sin to avoid? A command to obey? An idea for loving God or my neighbor? A prayer to pray?
4. **Pray**—Talk to God about what you read.
5. **Share**—Tell a friend (or your parents) one thing that you learned. Or ask them one question about what you read.

Extra (once a month if needed):

Read 5 passages in a row, all at once! Remember to put a mark beside all five readings.

God deals with his sinful nation—Part 2: The southern kingdom, Judah (continued)

- 2 Kings 19:15-20, 32-37.....Hezekiah prays and Isaiah prophesies of Assyria's defeat
- Isaiah 1:1-4, 10-13, 18-20.....“Sinful nation” and “Come now, let us reason together”
- Isaiah 6:1-13.....Isaiah sees the LORD on his throne and is sent as a prophet
- Isaiah 11:1-10; 40:1-11.....“There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse” and “Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might”
- Isaiah 40:18-31“To whom then will you liken God?”
- Isaiah 44:9-20.....“All who fashion idols are nothing”
- Isaiah 53:1-12.....“He was wounded for our transgressions”
- Isaiah 61:1-11; 65:17-25.....“The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me” and “Behold, I create new heavens and a new earth”
- Micah 6:1-8; 7:18-20.....“What does the LORD require?” and “Who is a God like you?”
- 2 Kings 21:1-6; 22:1-13.....Manasseh does much evil and Josiah hears the Book of the Law
- 2 Kings 23:1-3, 21-27.....Josiah leads Judah to renew their covenant with the LORD
- Psalm 119:89-105.....“Oh how I love your law!”
- Nahum 1:1-9, 15.....“The LORD is a jealous and avenging God”
- Habakkuk 1:1-11; 2:4; 3:16-19.....“The righteous shall live by his faith”
- Zephaniah 1:1-6, 12-18.....“The great day of the LORD is near”
- Obadiah 1:1-4, 10-18.....“The day of the LORD is near upon all the nations”
- Jeremiah 1:1-10; 11:1-14.....The LORD calls Jeremiah to be a prophet and “The house of Israel and the house of Judah have broken my covenant”
- Jeremiah 18:1-12“Go down to the potter's house”
- Jeremiah 23:1-8.....“I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign”
- Jeremiah 25:1-12.....“These nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years”
- Jeremiah 31:27-37.....“I will make a new covenant with... Israel and... Judah”
- Joel 2:21-32.....“I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh”
- 2 Kings 25:1-12, 22-26.....Judah is taken into exile
- Psalm 89:1-4, 38-52.....“Where is your steadfast love of old, which... you swore to David?”
- Lamentations 3:22-40.....“The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases”

This plan has 25 readings per month, with about 15 verses per reading. Month 7 has 357 verses—an average of 14.3 verses per reading.

A Beginner's Bible Reading Plan – Month 8

Name: _____ Month: _____

Daily (5 or 6 days a week):

1. **Pray**—Ask God to help you understand and believe what you are about to read.
2. **Read and mark**—Read one passage from the list below. Then put a mark in the box beside the reading.
3. **Think**—For example: What new thing did I learn? What puzzles me? How does this passage fit into the big story of the Bible? What does it teach about God and his plans? Is there a reason to praise God? A promise to claim? An example to follow? A sin to avoid? A command to obey? An idea for loving God or my neighbor? A prayer to pray?
4. **Pray**—Talk to God about what you read.
5. **Share**—Tell a friend (or your parents) one thing that you learned. Or ask them one question about what you read.

Extra (once a month if needed):

Read 5 passages in a row, all at once! Remember to put a mark beside all five readings.

God cares for his exiled nation

- Ezekiel 1:1-10, 15-19, 26-28..... “The appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD”
- Ezekiel 5:1-13..... Ezekiel shaves his hair and demonstrates Jerusalem's destruction
- Ezekiel 8:1-6, 16-18..... Ezekiel is shown abominations in the temple
- Ezekiel 10:18-22; 11:22-25..... The glory of the LORD leaves the old temple
- Ezekiel 34:1-15..... “I will cause you to be inhabited as in your former times”
- Ezekiel 34:16-28..... “I will give you a new heart, and... put my Spirit within you”
- Ezekiel 37:1-14..... “O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD”
- Ezekiel 43:1-12..... The glory of the LORD fills the new temple
- Daniel 6:1-13..... Daniels' enemies trick the king and trap Daniel
- Daniel 6:14-28..... “The living God... has saved Daniel from the power of the lions”
- Daniel 7:1-14..... Daniel's vision: Four beasts, the Ancient of Days, and the Son of Man
- Daniel 7:15-28..... The interpretation of Daniel's vision
- Esther 3:1-6; 4:1-17..... Haman seeks to destroy the Jews and Mordecai and Esther respond
- Esther 5:1-5; 7:1-10..... The king welcomes Esther, hears of Haman's plot, and hangs him

God brings his nation back from exile

- Ezra 1:1-11; 3:8-11..... The LORD stirs up Cyrus to proclaim that the temple be rebuilt
- Ezra 4:1-4; 5:1-2; Haggai 1:1-11. Enemies frighten the returned exiles but prophets encourage them
- Ezra 6:14-22..... The returned exiles finish rebuilding the temple in Jerusalem
- Zechariah 3:1-10..... A vision of Joshua the high priest
- Zechariah 8:1-17 “Thus says the LORD: I have returned to Zion”
- Zechariah 9:9-17..... “Behold, your king is coming to you... mounted on a donkey”
- Ezra 7:1-13, 25-28 Ezra, “a scribe skilled in the Law of Moses,” comes to Jerusalem
- Nehemiah 1:1-4; 2:1-6, 11-18..... Nehemiah prays and makes plans to rebuild Jerusalem's walls
- Nehemiah 4:1-14; 6:15-16..... Enemies oppose the Jews but God helps them build the walls
- Nehemiah 8:1-18..... Ezra reads from the Law and the people joyfully obey
- Malachi 2:17-3:5; 4:1-6..... “Behold, I will send my messenger... I will send you Elijah”

This plan has 25 readings per month, with about 15 verses per reading. Month 8 has 355 verses—an average of 14.2 verses per reading.

A Beginner's Bible Reading Plan – Month 9

Name: _____ Month: _____

Daily (5 or 6 days a week):

1. **Pray**—Ask God to help you understand and believe what you are about to read.
2. **Read and mark**—Read one passage from the list below. Then put a mark in the box beside the reading.
3. **Think**—For example: What new thing did I learn? What puzzles me? How does this passage fit into the big story of the Bible? What does it teach about God and his plans? Is there a reason to praise God? A promise to claim? An example to follow? A sin to avoid? A command to obey? An idea for loving God or my neighbor? A prayer to pray?
4. **Pray**—Talk to God about what you read.
5. **Share**—Tell a friend (or your parents) one thing that you learned. Or ask them one question about what you read.

Extra (once a month if needed):

Read 5 passages in a row, all at once! Remember to put a mark beside all five readings.

The Life of Jesus – According to Matthew, Mark and Luke

**(God sends a new King with a new covenant to raise up a new nation—
a righteous Church made up of people from all over the whole world!)**

- Luke 1:26-38, 46-55.....The birth of Jesus is foretold to Mary; Mary's Magnificat
- Matthew 1:1, 17-25.....The birth of Jesus is foretold to Joseph
- Luke 2:1-20.....Jesus is born and the shepherds visit
- Matthew 2:1-16.....The visit of the magi and the flight into Egypt
- Luke 2:40-52.....Jesus visits the temple at age twelve
- Mark 1:1-11.....The ministry of John the Baptist and Jesus' baptism
- Matthew 4:1-11.....The temptation of Jesus and the calling of the first disciples
- Matthew 5:1-20.....The Sermon on the Mount (1)
- Matthew 5:38-48.....The Sermon on the Mount (2)
- Matthew 6:5-15.....The Sermon on the Mount (3)
- Matthew 6:19-34.....The Sermon on the Mount (4)
- Matthew 7:7-14, 24-29.....The Sermon on the Mount (5)
- Mark 2:1-12.....Jesus heals a paralyzed man
- Matthew 9:27-38.....Jesus performs miracles and preaches the gospel of the kingdom
- Matthew 13:1-11, 18-23, 44-50....Parables of the kingdom
- Matthew 16:13-23.....Peter confesses that Jesus is the Christ but then rebukes him
- Luke 9:23-36.....Teaching about taking up the cross and the Transfiguration
- Matthew 18:1-14.....Jesus teaches about little ones in the kingdom
- Luke 10:25-37.....The Parable of the Good Samaritan (loving my neighbor)
- Luke 15:11-32.....The Parable of the Lost Son (rejoicing over repentant sinners)
- Matthew 19:16-26.....The rich young man (giving away all for the kingdom)
- Luke 19:1-9, 41-44.....Zacchaeus enters the kingdom and Jesus weeps over Jerusalem
- Matthew 21:1-17.....Jesus enters Jerusalem and cleanses the temple
- Matthew 21:33-46.....The Parable of the Tenants
- Matthew 25:31-46.....The judgment of the sheep and the goats

This plan has 25 readings per month, with about 15 verses per reading. Month 9 has 369 verses—an average of 14.76 verses per reading.

A Beginner's Bible Reading Plan – Month 10

Name: _____ Month: _____

Daily (5 or 6 days a week):

1. **Pray**—Ask God to help you understand and believe what you are about to read.
2. **Read and mark**—Read one passage from the list below. Then put a mark in the box beside the reading.
3. **Think**—For example: What new thing did I learn? What puzzles me? How does this passage fit into the big story of the Bible? What does it teach about God and his plans? Is there a reason to praise God? A promise to claim? An example to follow? A sin to avoid? A command to obey? An idea for loving God or my neighbor? A prayer to pray?
4. **Pray**—Talk to God about what you read.
5. **Share**—Tell a friend (or your parents) one thing that you learned. Or ask them one question about what you read.

Extra (once a month if needed):

Read 5 passages in a row, all at once! Remember to put a mark beside all five readings.

The Death and Resurrection of Jesus – According to Matthew, Mark and Luke

- Matthew 26:1-16.....Anointing and selling Jesus—How much is he worth?
- Matthew 26:17-29.....Jesus' last Passover and the first Lord's Supper
- Matthew 26:30-46.....The disciples promise to be faithful but fall asleep
- Matthew 26:47-56.....Jesus is betrayed and arrested
- Matthew 26:57-75.....Jesus' trial and Peter's denial at the high priest's house
- Matthew 27:1-2, 11-26.....Jesus is tried before the governor Pilate
- Matthew 27:27-44.....Jesus is crucified
- Matthew 27:45-56.....Jesus dies
- Matthew 27:57-66.....Jesus is buried
- Matthew 28:1-20.....Jesus rises from the dead and sends his disciples
- Luke 24:13-35.....Jesus appears to two disciples on the road to Emmaus
- Luke 24:36-49.....Jesus comforts his disciples and explains the Scriptures

The Signs and Teachings of Jesus – According to John

- John 1:1-18.....“The Word became flesh”—God becomes a human!
- John 3:1-18.....Nicodemus—“You must be born again”
- John 6:1-15.....Jesus feeds 5000 men fish and bread
- John 6:25-35, 48-51.....Jesus says, “I am the Bread of Life”
- John 10:1-18.....Jesus says, “I am the Good Shepherd”
- John 11:1-7, 17-27.....Jesus says, “I am the Resurrection and the Life”
- John 11:38-53.....Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead
- John 13:1-17.....Jesus washes his disciples' feet
- John 14:1-14.....Jesus says, “I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life”
- John 14:15-27.....Jesus promises the Holy Spirit
- John 15:1-17.....Jesus says, “I am the True Vine”
- John 20:19-31.....These signs “are written so that you may believe”
- John 21:15-25.....Loving and following Jesus, feeding his sheep 203

This plan has 25 readings per month, with about 15 verses per reading. Month 10 has 393 verses—an average of 15.72 verses per reading.

A Beginner's Bible Reading Plan – Month 11

Name: _____ Month: _____

Daily (5 or 6 days a week):

1. **Pray**—Ask God to help you understand and believe what you are about to read.
2. **Read and mark**—Read one passage from the list below. Then put a mark in the box beside the reading.
3. **Think**—For example: What new thing did I learn? What puzzles me? How does this passage fit into the big story of the Bible? What does it teach about God and his plans? Is there a reason to praise God? A promise to claim? An example to follow? A sin to avoid? A command to obey? An idea for loving God or my neighbor? A prayer to pray?
4. **Pray**—Talk to God about what you read.
5. **Share**—Tell a friend (or your parents) one thing that you learned. Or ask them one question about what you read.

Extra (once a month if needed):

Read 5 passages in a row, all at once! Remember to put a mark beside all five readings.

The Birth and Growth of the Church

- Acts 1:1-11.....Jesus promises the Spirit and ascends into heaven
- Acts 2:1-24, 36.....The Holy Spirit comes and Peter preaches
- Acts 2:37-47.....Three thousand people repent and are baptized
- Acts 6:8-15.....Stephen is seized by the Greek Jews
- Acts 7:51-8:3.....Stephen rebukes the Jews, who begin to persecute the church
- Acts 8:26-40.....Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch
- Acts 9:1-22.....Saul (Paul) is converted and appointed as an apostle
- Acts 10:1-20.....Cornelius and Peter see visions
- Acts 10:34-48.....Peter preaches and the Gentiles receive the Holy Spirit
- Acts 16:9-18.....The gospel arrives in Macedonia (the edge of Europe)
- Acts 16:19-34.....Paul and Silas and the jailer are saved
- Acts 27:1, 13-26.....Paul, sailing toward Rome, is storm-tossed at sea
- Acts 27:33-44.....Shipwreck and survival

Paul's Letters to Churches

- Romans 3:9-26.....All have sinned and all are made right by faith in Jesus, as a gift
- Romans 5:1-11.....God, who has loved us through Jesus, will finish saving us
- Romans 8:1-2, 11-18.....The Spirit makes us children of God
- Romans 8:28-39.....“If God is for us, who can be against us?”
- Romans 12:1-21.....How we live because of God's mercies
- 1 Corinthians 1:10-25.....The cross is the solution for divided churches
- 1 Corinthians 12:12-31.....The Church is one body with many members
- 1 Corinthians 13:1-13.....Love is the solution for divided churches
- 1 Corinthians 15:12-28.....The resurrection of the dead: “In Christ shall all be made alive”
- 2 Corinthians 9:6-15.....“God loves a cheerful giver”
- 2 Corinthians 11:18-33.....Paul boasts about his sufferings and weaknesses as an apostle
- 2 Corinthians 12:1-10.....Jesus tells Paul, “My power is made perfect in weakness”

This plan has 25 readings per month, with about 15 verses per reading. Month 11 has 385 verses—an average of 15.4 verses per reading.

A Beginner's Bible Reading Plan – Month 12

Name: _____ Month: _____

Daily (5 or 6 days a week):

1. **Pray**—Ask God to help you understand and believe what you are about to read.
2. **Read and mark**—Read one passage from the list below. Then put a mark in the box beside the reading.
3. **Think**—For example: What new thing did I learn? What puzzles me? How does this passage fit into the big story of the Bible? What does it teach about God and his plans? Is there a reason to praise God? A promise to claim? An example to follow? A sin to avoid? A command to obey? An idea for loving God or my neighbor? A prayer to pray?
4. **Pray**—Talk to God about what you read.
5. **Share**—Tell a friend (or your parents) one thing that you learned. Or ask them one question about what you read.

Extra (once a month if needed):

Read 5 passages in a row, all at once! Remember to put a mark beside all five readings.

Paul's Letters to Churches (continued)

- Galatians 3:1-14.....The righteous shall live by faith
- Galatians 5:1, 13-24.....Christ has set us free—Walk by the Spirit!
- Ephesians 2:1-10; 3:14-21..... A new walk and a prayer to know God's love and power
- Philippians 2:1-16.....Imitating Christ's example of humility
- Colossians 3:12-25.....Putting on love—Rules for Christian households
- 1 Thessalonians 4:9-18
and 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15The coming of the Lord and warnings against disorderly living

Paul's Letters to Church Workers

- 1 Timothy 2:1-15.....How to behave in the Church: Men and women and prayer
- 1 Timothy 3:1-16How to behave in the Church: Good church leaders
- 2 Timothy 1:1-7; 3:14-17..... Timothy's heritage of faith and Scripture
- Titus 2:1-14.....God's grace teaches us how to live
- Philemon 1:1, 8-22.....Paul's plea to Philemon for Onesimus

More Letters to Churches

- Hebrews 10:1-18.....Jesus replaces the Old Testament sacrifices and priests
- Hebrews 10:19-31, 39.....The full assurance of faith
- Hebrews 11:1-16.....Without faith it is impossible to please God
- Hebrews 12:1-14.....Looking to Jesus and enduring God's discipline
- James 2:8-17.....Faith without works is dead
- 1 Peter 2:13-25.....Submission to authority, following Christ in suffering
- 2 Peter 3:1-13; Jude 1:17-25.....The Day of the Lord will come; Kept in the love of God
- 1 John 1:1-10; 4:7-21.....Fellowship in the light; “We love because he first loved us”
- 3 John 1-15; 2 John 1:4-8.....Walking in truth and love and supporting faithful brothers
- Revelation 1:9-20; 2:1-7.....John sees a vision of the Son of Man; To the church at Ephesus
- Revelation 4:1-11.....John sees a throne in heaven surrounded by worshipers
- Revelation 5:1-14Worthy is the Lamb to open the scroll containing God's judgments
- Revelation 20:11-15; 21:1-8.....A great white throne; A new heaven and a new earth
- Revelation 22:8-21.....“Surely I am coming soon”