

THE COMMUTE

CONNECT WITH THE BIBLE
WHEREVER YOU GO.



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Why Read The Bible?

I have noticed that people who grow the most in their faith are those who worship regularly, pray daily, and read scripture with others and on their own. Why? Through these simple actions we connect with Jesus and the more we connect with Jesus, the more we grow in our ability to live our faith out in our everyday lives. I say that realizing the Bible can feel like a big and confusing book. The thought of taking time to actually try to read it can seem daunting! That is why we designed The Commute reading plan. The Commute is a reading plan designed to help you dive into the Bible. You will find a simple plan for reading the Bible, and a few simple helps to get you started. You will also find a weekly podcast designed to help you as you walk through the different parts of the Bible. The goal in all of this is simple – to help you engage with the Bible in a way that will help you grow in your faith.

How do I start reading the Bible?

What's the best way to start reading the bible? Just start somewhere! If reading through the entire Bible feels like too big a leap, then scale the reading to a manageable size. We intentionally structured The Commute reading plan so that you could easily do that. Here is a simple way to scale the reading plan.

1 Reading - Just read the first reading of the day. Each reading begins with the New Testament. So, if you only do one reading, pick the 1st reading. That will allow you to read through the entire New Testament in a year in just 5 minutes a day, 5 days a week.

2 Readings - If you read the first two readings, you will read through the whole New Testament, Psalms, Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, Ruth, and Lamentations.

3 Readings - If you read all three readings you will read through the whole Bible in just 15-20 minutes a day, 5 days a week. Wherever you begin, just commit to starting somewhere. Remember reading and applying God's word is the best way to grow in your faith. Paul wrote in his letter to his protegee Timothy that all scripture is from God and good for teaching us, correcting us, and equipping us for the life of faith. (2 Timothy 3:16) But how does that work? It is as simple as reading the bible, seeing what it has to say, and applying it to your life. To help you do that, I have a few questions that no matter where you are reading in the Bible can help you engage with the Bible as you are reading it. These questions are framed around a simple concept for living out faith I like to call: Experience, Connect, and Reflect Jesus. To do that, simply take whatever part of the Bible you are reading and ask...

EXPERIENCE - What does this section of scripture tell me about God?

CONNECT - What does this section of scripture tell me about myself and the world?

REFLECT - How will this change who I am and how I live?

PRAYER - Begin and end with a prayer. Ask for God's guidance as you read. Ask for his guidance as you live. While these questions may seem simple, they are designed to help you engage with the truth of scripture.

Other key tips for reading the Bible.

Scripture is for you, but it's not about you. It's about Jesus. From the very beginning in Genesis to the very end of Revelation there is only one character you see consistently on every page - God! That is because the scriptures are first and foremost a record of who God is, the great things He has done in our world, and the incredible plan He has to redeem and restore all things to himself in Jesus. What the Bible constantly teaches us is the story of God and how he brings us into his story.

Keep the bigger story of scripture in mind. The entire Bible is one big story that can be broken down into 4 main parts. It begins with the story of creation and the way things were always meant to be. Then in Genesis chapter 3 we witness mankind's fall into sin and the breaking of God's perfect creation. This is where the story should end, but thanks to God's amazing grace in Genesis chapter 3, we watch as he sets a plan of redemption into motion that eventually leads to Jesus' life, death, and resurrection from the dead. Through Jesus, God saves the world and promises to one day restore the world and our lives to the way they were always meant to be. Everything you read in the Bible fits into this bigger story of creation, fall, redemption, and restoration with Jesus at the center of it all.

Read Scripture in context: If a verse is confusing, take time to read the verses that come before and after it. This will help you understand what the author is trying to tell you. If you are reading one of the letters in the New Testament, take time to read an entire letter from beginning to end. This will help you better understand what the author is talking about on the whole. Reading bigger sections of scripture can help you understand the smaller sections you are reading. You can also find great summaries of the different books you are reading like information on each author, the audience they were originally writing for, the culture in which they lived, and the challenges they were addressing. All this information can help you better understand the different parts of the Bible you are reading. You can find this in a study Bible, through our Commute Podcast, and other great resources like thebibleproject.org.

Read it multiple times in different translations. If you don't understand something, read it again and that can help you better understand what it is saying. You can also try a different translation of the Bible. While the truth of scripture is always the same, sometimes the different translators use different words that can help you better understand the different sections of scripture.

It's okay to have questions. The Bible is a book you read over a lifetime. Whether you are reading it for the first time, or you have a doctorate in Biblical studies, you will have questions. Find someone to read it and discuss it with you. The Bible is a book that is best read with others.

Allow time for prayer and reflection. Reflecting on the Bible is another way of saying take time to think about what you just read. You can use the experience, connect, and reflect questions to do that. You can also ask yourself a few more questions like... What do I hear God saying? What do I think about that? How does that make me feel? What do I feel compelled to say back? You will find that these questions not only help you reflect on what you are reading, but they also help you start a conversation with God about what you are reading. We call this conversation with God prayer. Scripture is a great way to help you connect with and pray to God.

Finally, schedule it. If you are trying to start a new habit, especially a habit that will have a lasting impact on your life, the best thing to do is set time aside to do it. That is why we call this booklet The Commute. We have found there are so many moments that go unclaimed. Moments in our day where we are on a bus, train, or car going from one place to another. Those are perfect moments you can set aside to connect with God. Whatever time you find to set aside, we pray that your time in the Bible is a blessing in your life that helps you grow in your faith for years to come.

Week 29

197 ☐ Ephesians 1 ☐ 119:153-160 ☐ 8-10
198 ☐ 2 ☐ 119:161-168 ☐ Isaiah 1
199 ☐ 3 ☐ 119:169-176 ☐ 2
200 ☐ 4 ☐ 120 ☐ 3
201 ☐ 5 ☐ 121 ☐ 4
202 -----No Reading Today-----
203 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 30

204 ☐ 6 ☐ 122 ☐ 5
205 ☐ Philippians 1 ☐ 123 ☐ 6
206 ☐ 2 ☐ 124 ☐ 7
207 ☐ 3 ☐ 125 ☐ 8
208 ☐ 4 ☐ 126 ☐ 9
209 -----No Reading Today-----
210 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 31

211 ☐ Hebrews 1 ☐ 127 ☐ 10
213 ☐ 2 ☐ 128 ☐ 11
214 ☐ 3 ☐ 129 ☐ 12
215 ☐ 4 ☐ 130 ☐ 13
215 ☐ 5 ☐ 131 ☐ 14
216 -----No Reading Today-----
217 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 32

218 ☐ 6 ☐ 132 ☐ 15
219 ☐ 7 ☐ 133 ☐ 16
220 ☐ 8 ☐ 134 ☐ 17
221 ☐ 9 ☐ 137 ☐ 18
222 ☐ 10 ☐ 138 ☐ 19
223 -----No Reading Today-----
224 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 33

225 ☐ 11 ☐ 139 ☐ 20
226 ☐ 12 ☐ 140 ☐ 21
227 ☐ 13 ☐ 141 ☐ 22
228 ☐ Colossians 1 ☐ 143 ☐ 23
229 ☐ 2 ☐ 144 ☐ 24
230 -----No Reading Today-----
231 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 34

232 ☐ 3 ☐ 145 ☐ 25
233 ☐ 4 ☐ 146 ☐ 26
234 ☐ Matthew 1 ☐ 147 ☐ 27
235 ☐ 2 ☐ 148 ☐ 28
236 ☐ 3 ☐ 149 ☐ 29
237 -----No Reading Today-----
238 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 35

239 ☐ 4 ☐ 150 ☐ 30
240 ☐ 5 ☐ Proverbs 1 ☐ 31
241 ☐ 6 ☐ 2 ☐ 32
242 ☐ 7 ☐ 3 ☐ 33
243 ☐ 8 ☐ 4 ☐ 34
244 -----No Reading Today-----
245 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 36

246 ☐ 9 ☐ 5 ☐ 35
247 ☐ 10 ☐ 6 ☐ 36
248 ☐ 11 ☐ 7 ☐ 37
249 ☐ 12 ☐ 8 ☐ 38
250 ☐ 13 ☐ 9 ☐ 39
251 -----No Reading Today-----
252 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 37

253 ☐ 14 ☐ 10:1-16 ☐ 40
254 ☐ 15 ☐ 10:17-32 ☐ 41
255 ☐ 16 ☐ 11:1-15 ☐ 42
256 ☐ 17 ☐ 11:16-31 ☐ 43
257 ☐ 18 ☐ 12:1-14 ☐ 44
258 -----No Reading Today-----
259 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 38

260 ☐ 19 ☐ 12:15-28 ☐ 45
261 ☐ 20 ☐ 13:1-12 ☐ 46
262 ☐ 21 ☐ 13:13-25 ☐ 47
263 ☐ 22 ☐ 14:1-18 ☐ 48
264 ☐ 23 ☐ 14:19-35 ☐ 49
265 -----No Reading Today-----
266 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 39

267 ☐ 24 ☐ 15:1-17 ☐ 50
268 ☐ 25 ☐ 15:18-33 ☐ 51
269 ☐ 26 ☐ 16:1-16 ☐ 52
270 ☐ 27 ☐ 16:17-33 ☐ 53
271 ☐ 28 ☐ 17:1-14 ☐ 54
272 -----No Reading Today-----
273 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 40

274 ☐ 1 Corinthians 1 ☐ 17:15-28 ☐ 55
275 ☐ 2 ☐ 18 ☐ 56
276 ☐ 3 ☐ 19:1-14 ☐ 57
277 ☐ 4 ☐ 19:15-29 ☐ 58
278 ☐ 5 ☐ 20:1-15 ☐ 59
279 -----No Reading Today-----
280 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 41

281 ☐ 6 ☐ 20:16-30 ☐ 60
282 ☐ 7 ☐ 21:1-16 ☐ 61
283 ☐ 8 ☐ 21:17-31 ☐ 62
284 ☐ 9 ☐ 22:1-16 ☐ 63
285 ☐ 10 ☐ 22:17-29 ☐ 64
286 -----No Reading Today-----
287 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 42

288 ☐ 11 ☐ 23:1-18 ☐ 65
289 ☐ 12 ☐ 23:19-35 ☐ 66
290 ☐ 13 ☐ 24:1-22 ☐ Jeremiah
291 ☐ 14 ☐ 24:23-34 ☐ 4-6
292 ☐ 15 ☐ 25:1-14 ☐ 7-9
293 -----No Reading Today-----
294 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 43

295 ☐ 16 ☐ 25:15-28 ☐ 10-12
296 ☐ 2 Corinthians 1 ☐ 26:1-16 ☐ 13-15
297 ☐ 2 ☐ 26:17-28 ☐ 16-18
298 ☐ 3 ☐ 27:1-14 ☐ 19-21
299 ☐ 4 ☐ 27:15-27 ☐ 22-24
300 -----No Reading Today-----
301 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 44

302 ☐ 5 ☐ 28:1-14 ☐ 25-27
303 ☐ 6 ☐ 28:15-28 ☐ 28-30
304 ☐ 7 ☐ 29:1-14 ☐ 31-33
305 ☐ 8 ☐ 29:15-27 ☐ 34-36
306 ☐ 9 ☐ 30 ☐ 37-39
307 -----No Reading Today-----
308 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 45

309 ☐ 10 ☐ 31 ☐ 40-42
310 ☐ 11 ☐ Lamentations 1-2 ☐ 43-46
311 ☐ 12 ☐ 3-5 ☐ 47-49
312 ☐ 13 ☐ Ecclesiastes 1 ☐ 50-52
313 ☐ James 1 ☐ 2 ☐ Ezekiel 1-4
314 -----No Reading Today-----
315 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 46

316 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 5-7
317 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 8-11
318 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 12-15
319 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 16-19
320 ☐ 1 Peter 1 ☐ 7 ☐ 20-23
321 -----No Reading Today-----
322 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 47

323 ☐ 2 ☐ 8 ☐ 24-26
324 ☐ 3 ☐ 9 ☐ 27-30
325 ☐ 4 ☐ 10 ☐ 31-34
326 ☐ 5 ☐ 11 ☐ 35-38
327 ☐ 2 Peter 1 ☐ 12 ☐ 39-42
328 -----No Reading Today-----
329 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 48

330 ☐ 2 ☐ Song Of Songs 1 ☐ 43-45
331 ☐ 3 ☐ 2 ☐ 46-48
332 ☐ Revelation 1 ☐ 3 ☐ Daniel 1-3
333 ☐ 2 ☐ 4 ☐ 4-6
334 ☐ 3 ☐ 5 ☐ 7-9
335 -----No Reading Today-----
336 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 49

337 ☐ 4 ☐ 6 ☐ 10-12
338 ☐ 5 ☐ 7 ☐ Joel
339 ☐ 6 ☐ 8 ☐ Jonah
340 ☐ 7 ☐ Job 1-3 ☐ Micah 1-3
341 ☐ 8 ☐ 4-6 ☐ 4-5
342 -----No Reading Today-----
343 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 50

344 ☐ 9 ☐ 7-9 ☐ 6-7
345 ☐ 10 ☐ 10-12 ☐ Nahum
346 ☐ 11 ☐ 13-15 ☐ Habakkuk
347 ☐ 12 ☐ 16-18 ☐ Zephaniah
348 ☐ 13 ☐ 19-21 ☐ Zechariah 1-3
349 -----No Reading Today-----
350 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 51

351 ☐ 14 ☐ 22-24 ☐ 4-6
352 ☐ 15 ☐ 25-27 ☐ 7-9
353 ☐ 16 ☐ 28-30 ☐ 10-12
354 ☐ 17 ☐ 31-33 ☐ 3-14
355 ☐ 18 ☐ 34-35 ☐ Haggai
356 -----No Reading Today-----
357 -----No Reading Today-----

Week 52

358 ☐ 19 ☐ 36-37 ☐ Malachi 1
359 ☐ 20 ☐ 38-39 ☐ 2
360 ☐ 21 ☐ 40-41 ☐ 3
361 ☐ 22 ☐ 42 ☐ 4
362 -----No Reading Today-----
363 -----No Reading Today-----
364 -----No Reading Today-----

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