

Daily Devotionals & Personal Reading plans

After Jesus fasted in the wilderness for forty days and nights, the devil tempted Him to turn stones into loaves of bread—something the Son of God surely *could* have done in that moment. But instead of performing that miracle, Jesus quoted Deuteronomy 8:3, saying, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God” (Matt. 4:4).

It simply cannot overstated the importance and power of God’s Word. And we are blessed to live in an age in which literacy rates and accessibility to the Bible are at all-time highs. Within a few taps on our phone screens, we can read something for which many faithful followers of Christ have died. It’s a glorious gift that we should never take for granted. So, whether you are setting out to read the Bible for the first time or the fiftieth, we hope one of these plans will help you say with the psalmist,

In the way of your testimonies I delight
as much as in all riches.
I will meditate on your precepts
And fix my eyes on your ways.
I will delight in your statutes;
I will not forget your word. (Psalm 119:14–16)

Here are some recommended reading plans that may help you

Bible in One Year

The Bible in One Year plan, led by Rev Nicky Gumbel has been a very reliable daily study that many people find enriching. The daily study comprises readings from the Old Testament, the Psalms, and the New Testament with a devotion.

A book of these devotions can be purchased via any Christian bookshop or ordered online via <https://amzn.eu/d/eA1s2pt>

Alternatively the daily study can be accessed at <https://bible.alpha.org/en/> where you can also download an App to your phone if you prefer.

M'Cheyne Reading Plan

If you're a longtime listener to Alistair Begg, there's a good chance you've heard him reference Robert Murray M'Cheyne's reading plan. It has long been a part of Alistair's spiritual diet, and his website Truth For Life makes it available in several different formats to make it very accessible. You can access via the website https://www.truthforlife.org/daily/?tab=bible_reading, or download and print from <https://www.truthforlife.org/bible-reading-plan/>, or subscribe to a daily email <https://info.truthforlife.org/lists>

The M'Cheyne reading plan will guide you through four passages of Scripture each day, giving you a road map for reading the entire Bible over the course of the year. In his suggested readings, M'Cheyne divides the plan into two parts: one for personal reading and one that can be read together as a family. When you use this daily plan, you'll end the year having read the entire Old Testament once and the New Testament and the book of Psalms twice!

UCB Word for Today

As a Church family we have supported United Christian Broadcasters for many years. This organisation provides daily Bible reading notes free of charge, and copies of their 3 monthly studies are available in both churches. Simply take one or give one to a friend. For those that prefer online, the reading notes are available at <https://www.ucb.co.uk/word-for-today>

Bible through the Year - Alistair Begg

Alistair Begg is the pastor of Cleveland's Parkside Church but originated from Glasgow. He is a faithful teacher of scriptures and his daily devotionals are followed around the world. If you plan on using Alistair's new daily devotional, *Truth For Life*, over the course of the next year, you can best find this plan at his app Truth for Life. The plan has been arranged by the book's publisher, The Good Book Company, and it will take you through each chapter of Scripture in a year's time.

Truth for Life devotional books

Alistair Begg has developed a series of books covering a short daily reading and an accompanying devotional. You can also follow an optional series of Bible readings if you wish to read the Bible in one year. These books are published by the Good Bookshop and are available to purchase online at <https://amzn.eu/d/3t8SI8j> or from any good Christian bookshop.

Chronological Plans

It has often been said that the Bible is best understood when we begin in the back of the book. That doesn't mean we start with Revelation 22:21 and work our way to Genesis 1:1; it just means that our studies of the Old Testament are greatly helped when we have a firm grasp on the events of the New Testament.

That said, many have been helped by chronological plans like this one available at

https://www.blueletterbible.org/assets/pdf/dbrp/1Yr_ChronologicalPlan.pdf. Chronological plans are arranged with the aim of walking the reader through God's Word in the order in which the events across all sixty-six books actually unfolded.

Listening Plans

Sometimes the circumstances of life make listening to the Bible much more manageable than sitting down and reading without any interruption. There certainly are pros and cons to listening, but there's no doubt that it can be a tremendous supplement to one's daily spiritual disciplines. You can find the entire bible in many versions available on various websites, but in particular at <https://www.biblegateway.com/>

Additionally, the publishing ministry Crossway has created the following Bible reading podcasts to which you can subscribe and listen daily:

M'Cheyne podcast

This is the same M'Cheyne reading plan mentioned above but on audio podcast. It is available at

<https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/the-mcheyne-esv-bible-plan-with-conrad-mbewe/id349167755> Each day has two passages from the Old Testament, one from the New Testament, and one from either the Psalms or the Gospels. In one year, you'll hear the Old Testament once and the New Testament and Psalms twice.

Various pastor's podcasts

There are a number of well known pastors who have helpfully set up daily podcasts for people on the move. Here are just a selection :

Rick Warren - <https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/pastor-ricks-daily-hope/id631094342>

Alistair Begg - <https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/truth-for-life-daily-program/id91473880>

David Platt - <https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/pray-the-word-with-david-platt/id1270453166>

John Piper - <https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/solid-joys-daily-devotional/id1315817340>