

2024 BIBLE READING PLAN



Redeemer Community Church

FEBRUARY

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I'M NOT SURE THIS BIBLE READING PLAN IS "WORKING" ...

I remember the frustration the first time I really got serious about having a "quiet time" and reading my Bible with consistency. Every few days it seemed like I would gain some new insight or find an applicable takeaway, but the majority of days I felt I was going through the motions with nothing to show for it. Rarely did I feel like I "got something" out of my time in the Word, and there were even days where I struggled to remember what I read in the morning by the time I was eating breakfast. It just did not feel like it was "working."

If any of this sounds familiar or describes your feelings as you try to follow this Bible reading plan, I encourage you to press on and not to lose heart. The kingdom of God grows within us like an underground seed - oftentimes invisible to our perception ([Mark 4:26-29](#)). It may be that our frustration lies not in our Bible reading, but in how we evaluate the success of our Bible reading.

Modern American culture defines success based on outputs. A student's success in the classroom is evaluated by the grade they received; an athlete is judged by their stats and their win-loss record; a musician's success is based on monthly Spotify listeners, a company's by profits, a movie based on box office numbers, and so on. Success, we think, must be quantified based on results. Yet the Lord looks not to our outputs (our "fruitfulness"), but to our inputs (our "faithfulness") (1 [Corinthians 4:1-2](#)). After all, he looks to our hearts rather than outward appearance (1 [Samuel 16:7](#)), and it is only as God grants success that our faithfulness bears fruit in the first place ([Psalm 127:1-2](#)).

So if you are discouraged that you are struggling to identify "successful" outputs as you read through Scripture and question whether it is working, hear these two encouragements:

First, even if nothing visible should come of it, the Lord is glorified simply by your desire to spend time with him and engage with his Word. Reading Scripture is not merely a means that leads to Christian growth, but is a fruit of Christian growth. Regardless of whether you can identify any new revelation or application that came from your time in the Word, God delights in your desire to spend time with him ([Luke 10:39, 42](#)).

Second, though it may not seem like the Word is having a tangible or visible effect on you, God has promised that his Word will produce the effects he desires and not return empty ([Isaiah 55:10-11](#)). Scripture takes time to bear fruit in our lives. Just as a child doesn't feel himself growing taller until he sees higher pencil marks on the doorframe where his parent measures him, so it often is with spiritual growth. As God's Word is stored up in our heart ([Psalm 119:11](#)), it will yield fruit "in season" ([Psalm 1:3](#)), eventually growing us in Christlikeness and intimacy with God. We may not sense growth as it occurs, but we can recognize it as we look back over longer periods.

So as you read, do not lose heart. While certainly it may be beneficial to consider changing something (what you're reading or how you're reading - and we'll offer some additional recommendations of ways to read Scripture in future months), have patience as you read now. Keep pressing on with trust that God is both honored in and working through your reading - whether in seen or unseen ways ([2 Corinthians 4:18](#)).

HOW TO READ THE OLD TESTAMENT: FOUR HELPFUL QUESTIONS

Whether it's Abraham being asked to sacrifice Isaac, Nehemiah rebuilding the wall of Jerusalem, or Esther scheming to save her people from destruction, the Old Testament feels stranger than the New, and it's harder to know what to do with a passage.

Some texts are going to be easier to understand than others – that's why [book overviews](#) and [commentaries](#) can be helpful! – but here are four questions that can help us read many passages fruitfully:

1. WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SHOW ABOUT GOD'S NATURE AND CHARACTER?

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever” (Hebrews 13:8), and so is God. His character never changes, and so when we see who he is in the Old Testament, we're seeing the same God we worship and belong to today.

An Old Testament passage might show something about God's nature – his power, his creativity, his sovereignty – or it might show something about his character, like his love or holiness. Those things might be expressed a little differently in the New Testament, but God is fundamentally the same, so it's worth asking what an Old Testament text shows about him.

2. WHAT IS GOD DOING IN THIS PASSAGE?

Redemptive history is the term many Christians use to describe God's actions to build his kingdom in the world. All through time, God is choosing people to belong to him, establishing a relationship with them that includes blessings and expectations, leading them to greater maturity in trusting him, and guiding them on a mission in the world. That history has [chapters](#) where God is working out the plan in new ways, but he's always following the same plan.

Whether it's protecting the infant Moses (Exodus 2:1-10), leading Israel through the waters of the Red Sea (Exodus 14), or defining the terms of their relationship by giving the Law (Exodus 20), God is always building his kingdom in the world, and asking how he's doing that helps us learn something about life in his kingdom now.

3. HOW ARE GOD'S CHARACTER AND ACTIONS FULFILLED THROUGH JESUS?

As God incarnate and the Savior and King of the world, Jesus is the living image of God (Colossians 1:15), and his life, death, resurrection, rule, and ultimate return are the fulfillment of all the patterns and promises of the Old Testament. Everything God is and does in the Old Testament points forward to the ultimate revelation of his plan in Jesus.

So our reading of an Old Testament text isn't complete until we have some idea of how it points forward to God's work of redemption through Jesus. That means considering things like ...

- + How God's short-term promises (“I will give you the land of Canaan”) are ultimately fulfilled at the end of time (inheriting the entire renewed Earth)
- + How God's commands are continued, transformed, or completed and set aside by Jesus
- + How God's actions (like the Exodus or giving manna) point toward things he does through Jesus (giving us an “Exodus” from sin and death, providing living bread from heaven)
- + How the institutions (like sacrifices and the Tabernacle/Temple) and leaders (prophets, kings, priests) of the Old Testament either “positively” foreshadow something about Jesus' work or “negatively” make us hunger for the perfect prophet, priest, and king.

This is something of an art that we can spend a lifetime growing deeper in, so don't be discouraged if you're just getting started! Tim Keller is really good on this, so you might want to see if you can find a [sermon from him](#) on a text you're struggling with.

4. HOW DO PEOPLE RESPOND TO GOD, AND HOW DOES THAT RESPONSE SHOW WISDOM OR FOLLY?

In 1 Corinthians 10, Paul tells a group of non-Jewish Christians a story from the Old Testament, and then writes, "Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did ... these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come" (10:6, 11). The principle he sets here is that we can learn something of wisdom and folly from how people in the Old Testament responded to God and God's will.

Biblical wisdom includes love, holiness, and devoting every single area of life to God's way and God's glory: "the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" (Psalm 111:10). When we live by God's wisdom, we are being fully human and on his path of life; when we neglect his wisdom, we degrade our humanity and live in death.

Reading for wisdom is not "always be like the main character," because the main characters sometimes don't know what is wise, and sometimes know exactly what wisdom demands and choose folly instead. But reading both how the people in the stories live and how God's other words interpret or comment on how they live shows us what wisdom looks like.

HOW TO USE THIS BIBLE READING PLAN

The reading plan follows this weekly pattern:

- + **SUNDAY:** Read about three Psalms and set aside some extended time for prayer
- + **MONDAY:** Read the Scripture preached on the day before, with guided questions provided
- + **TUESDAY - FRIDAY:** Read through 1-2 chapters of the Old Testament and about 1 chapter of the New Testament, using your own method of meditating on Scripture
- + **SATURDAY:** Read through the Scripture that will be preached the following day

If you follow the plan in its entirety, you'll read through all the Psalms, Mark in depth, the whole New Testament, and a survey of the Old Testament (with at least one passage from every book of the OT) by the end of the year. Our hope is that the different rhythms on different days offer a good mix of breadth and depth in your reading this year. You should be able to easily complete daily readings in about fifteen minutes a day, though your experience will likely go much deeper if you have more time for reflection and prayer as you read.

While we've included an overview of the reading plan as a whole in this packet, we'll release the detailed reading plan month by month to the RCC website. Each month's plan will be posted and added to the church newsletter a few days before the first of each month. We're doing this so we can match some of our readings to the Scriptures that will be preached at Redeemer throughout the year.

In addition to a list of daily readings (and guided questions for Monday readings), we'll include a few articles each month that will offer some suggestions on different ways to read Scriptures, optional prayer prompts for each day, additional resources or links on the Scriptures assigned for the month, and announcements and events to be aware of.

While you're welcome to use everything in this study, you're also welcome to just choose specific elements to incorporate into your daily devotional time. We hope that this is a useful resource for you and for our church body, but by no means is it the only or best way to spend time with the Lord this year. We pray that however God calls you to engage with his Word in 2024, it leads you into deeper fellowship with our Creator and our Savior.

In Christ,
The RCC Discipleship Team

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR FEBRUARY

Introductory: Overviews to this month's books:

- + Bible Project: Overview of Exodus 1-18 ([video](#))
- + Bible Project: Overview of Exodus 19-40 ([video](#))
- + Bible Project: Overview of Romans ([video](#))

Intermediate: Study bible intro notes (context, themes, outlines, etc.) on:

- + [Exodus](#)
- + [Romans](#)

Deeper: Commentaries

- + Matthew Henry (1700s) wrote a commentary on the whole Bible that you can find chapter by chapter [here](#).
- + Alastair Roberts (modern) has a set of audio commentaries on every chapter of the Bible you can find [here](#).
- + Consider a recommended commentary on [Exodus](#), [Romans](#), or [Mark](#).

REDEEMER SERMON SERIES

- + [Exodus](#)
- + [Romans](#)

HELPFUL ARTICLES:

Praying the Psalms:

If you've never prayed through a psalm before, our Psalms readings include one prayer point each. [This article](#) gives an example of how a psalm can lead us to pray for things in our own lives.

We recommend reading the entire psalm and then either ...

- + Letting the suggested prayer point guide your prayer.
- + Going back through the psalm and praying through one verse or a few verses at a time, like the article does.
- + Praying through a verse or phrase that God lays on your heart.

PRAYER POINTS FOR FEBRUARY

TUESDAYS: Pray for non-Christian friends, family members, neighbors, and co-workers. Pray that God would help you take a next step in helping them understand the gospel, and pray that he would bring them from spiritual death to spiritual life.

WEDNESDAYS: Pray for the missions team of Redeemer. Pray that in all of our plans for 2024 (missions weekend and beyond) we would live out of a sense of overflow and deep abiding in Jesus letting His Spirit overflow into how we lead short term trips, world religions class, disciple making groups, etc. That we truly seek dependence on the Lord in all areas of ministry begging Him to show up and move in our midst.

THURSDAYS: Pray for our global and local partners:

Pray for Patrick and Joy, serving in Southeast Asia (and [email them](#) if you want to encourage them!):

- + For God to connect their team with spiritually hungry students on the university campus and in their neighborhoods.
- + For God to connect them with “Timothys” (2 Timothy 2:2), local men and women who would catch a heart and vision for making disciples themselves among their relational networks and families.
- + For wisdom as they lead and shepherd their interns (2+ years) and short-term teams (2-6 weeks).
- + For Joy’s time with our church family over Missions Weekend to be encouraging and refreshing, and for Patrick and the boys while she is away.

Pray for the Benevolence Ministry (and email [Ben Sciacca](#) if you’d like to get involved):

- + Wisdom on how to be both compassionate and relational as requests for assistance surface.
- + Growth for new benevolence team members.
- + Wisdom for how the benevolence ministry can be a resource for our current ministry partners with strategic service and volunteering.

FRIDAYS: Pray that you would become more invested in the gospel going forward in Birmingham and in the world: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:19-20).

INTRODUCTION TO ROMANS

Given the complexity of Romans we thought it would be helpful to give a quick intro before we start reading it on February 6th

The book of Romans can be intimidating. Not only is it among the longest of Paul's letters, but parts of it seem more like a theological paper than a pastoral letter. How do we start getting into it?

CONTEXT OF THE LETTER

Paul was writing to the church in Rome, which had experienced significant disruption in recent years. Like most churches, it had begun with predominantly Jewish-background Christians; but the emperor Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome for a time (Acts 18:2). When the Jewish believers began to come back, it seems they and the Gentile-background Christians had grown apart in some significant ways, and they were struggling with judging and condemning one another.

One question at the heart of this tension was, What role does the Old Testament play among the people of Jesus? Jewish-background Christians tended to think they should keep as much of the Old Testament Law as they could. And they seemed to wonder if the gospel of Jesus – that we are saved by faith in him – was a totally different way of relating to God than what we see in Abraham, Moses, and the other Old Testament saints.

KEY THEME

In response to that question, Paul spends the first few chapters making the case that “[the gospel] is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, ‘The righteous shall live by faith’” (Romans 1:16-17, quoting Habakkuk 2:4). From the beginning, Paul says, both Jews and then Gentiles were made right with God through faith in him, not by keeping the works of the Law. While the Jews received God's grace through faith before the Gentiles did, all people are in the same plight, and all people have only the one hope through Jesus (Romans 5).

After establishing this, Paul goes on to explore how the gospel

relates to sin and holiness (Romans 6-7), Christian hope (Romans 8), and relationships with one another (Romans 12-15). He also wrestles with the question of why so few Jews have accepted Christianity at that point, and what God's purposes might be for his Old Testament people (Romans 9-11).

KEY TERM: JUSTIFICATION / RIGHTEOUSNESS

A term that shows up again and again in the letter is sometimes translated “justification” and sometimes “righteousness,” but it's one Greek word. When it's applied to God, it describes God's absolute “rightness” or “justice” – God's perfect character. So as Romans 1:16 says, the gospel reveals God's perfect righteousness for all to see and believe, both Jew and Greek. When it's applied to us, “righteousness” describes the state of being “made right” with God, or declared just. In the Roman legal world, a person would be accused of a crime, and then a judge would consider the case and either declare them “just” (innocent) or condemned (guilty).

Paul makes the case that while the Old Testament Law was important as a guide to Israel's relationship with God, it was never meant to make people righteous before God; that even Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness” (Romans 4:3, quoting Genesis 15:6) before any Law was given. And now, Jesus has made it clear that “there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus” (Romans 3:22-24). We are made right with God by grace through faith.

OUTLINE OF THE LETTER

- + Romans 1-4: How does God's righteousness come to human beings?
- + Romans 5-8: What does righteousness by faith mean for our relationship with God?
- + Romans 9-11: What does that mean for God's purposes for non-Christian Jews?
- + Romans 12-16: How does the gospel change how we relate to others?

HAPPENING AT REDEEMER

We have a round of **discipleship classes** beginning in February including ...

- + Gospel & Work
- + Lifelong Discipleship
- + World Religions
- + Theological Foundations for Life

Learn more and register [here](#).

Our **missions weekend** is coming February 2-4! Under the theme “You Are Sent,” we’ll hear stories from global and local missions partners and consider how God might be sending us to our neighbors, the needy, or the nations. Follow [this link](#) for the weekend schedule.

If you aren’t sure how to meet people in the church, consider visiting one of our **collectives**. These are groups that meet around either a similar stage of life or some other common ground for fellowship and encouragement. Find a list of our collectives, with their contact info and schedules [here](#).

Our **men’s breakfast** is returning on February 6th! Join us at the Bray House every Tuesday morning at 6:30 AM for a time of fellowship, study, and delicious pancakes.

We have many opportunities for you to **serve** at Redeemer and in our city. Follow [this link](#) to learn more.

JANUARY 29- FEBRUARY 4

January 29: Mark 5:21-43

1. What stood out to you most from the text or the sermon (if you have heard yesterday's sermon)?
2. Read back through Mark 5:22-35 and try to place yourself in the position of Jairus. What emotions or thoughts do you anticipate he was having as Jesus stopped in the crowd even while his daughter was so close to dying?
3. Are there any times you can recall where God has not answered your requests or prayers as quickly as you would have liked? Is there anything you've been praying for that God has not yet answered?
4. As you reflect on your answers to the previous question, can you discern anything God might have been doing or anything good that might be coming from God's slowness in answering your prayers? Consider reading 2 Peter 3:8-9 for additional insight.
5. Read back through Mark 5:24-34, this time from the perspective of the woman with the discharge. How is the woman described as coming to Jesus (see Mark 5:33)? How does the woman's approach to Jesus compare or contrast to the way that you generally come to Jesus?
6. How do you anticipate the woman leaving after Jesus' response in verse 34? Is there anything from this that you should apply to your own relationship with God?

January 30: Genesis 25, John 18

Pray for non-Christians

January 31: Genesis 27, John 19

Pray for Redeemer's elders

February 1: Genesis 29:1-30:24, John 20

Pray for the Baniks & Redeemer's Benevolence Ministry

February 2: Genesis 32-33, John 21

Pray for a heart for the Gospel

February 3: Mark 6:1-13

February 4: Psalms 13-15

Psalm 13:

"How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me...But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation" (Psalm 13:1; 5).

Spend time praying for any unfulfilled longings you find in your heart or soul - especially any areas where God has seemed distant or absent. Then, call to mind the ways he has shown his "steadfast love" to you in the past as a reminder that he can answer your prayers according to his will and timing.

Psalm 14:

"They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one" (Psalm 14:3).

Spend time asking God to show you how you have turned aside from him or acted wickedly. Then, spend time repenting of any sins that he reveals to you.

Psalm 15

"He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart" (Psalm 15:2).

Spend time asking the Lord to create in you a pure heart, to sanctify you (ideally in specific ways where you sense your need for sanctification), and to lead you into obedience, holiness, and righteousness.

TAKE NOTES

FEBRUARY 5-11

February 5: Mark 6:1-13

1. What stood out most to you in this passage, yesterday's sermon, or anything else you've heard throughout missions weekend?
2. Why might Jesus's humility, simplicity, and seeming ordinariness have caused the townspeople to "take offense" at him (6:3)? Are there any ways that Jesus' ordinariness either frustrates you or causes you to take him for granted?
3. How does Jesus respond to being rejected, and what does this teach us about how we should respond to being rejected by the world (6:6)?
4. What does it look like for us to live as people "sent" by God into the world on mission (6:7)? How might this be a privilege for us?
5. What reason(s) might Jesus have had for telling the disciples not to take needed provisions with them on their mission/journey (6:8-9)?
6. Mark 6:7-13 shows the fulfillment of Mark 3:14-15 where we read that Jesus originally called the disciples to "be with him and then to be sent out to preach and to have authority." In what ways might Jesus be calling you similarly today?

fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore" (16:11).

Spend time praying about how you've seen God's goodness in your life, and ask that he would give you so much pleasure in him that your appetite for sin would diminish.

Psalm 17:

"As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness; when I awake, I shall be satisfied with your likeness" (17:15).

Pray that God would help you focus on him and be satisfied in him. Confess anything that is holding you back from being fully satisfied in him.

Psalm 18:

"I love you, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold" (18:1-2).

How has God been these things to you? Spend time thanking him for that.

February 6: Genesis 35, Romans 1

Pray for non-Christians

February 7: Genesis 37, Romans 2

Pray for Redeemer's mission team

February 8: Genesis 39, Romans 3

Pray for the Baniks & Redeemer's Benevolence Ministry

February 9: Genesis 40-41, Romans 4

Pray for a heart for the Gospel

February 10: Mark 6:14-29

February 11: Psalms 16-18

Psalm 16

"You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is

TAKE NOTES

FEBRUARY 12-18

February 12: Mark 6:14-29

1. Why had John been put in prison?
2. How did Herodias respond to her sin being exposed? How are you tempted to respond badly when someone sees or comes near your sin?
3. Herod respects John and seems interested in his message, but he executes him out of the fear of others. Where do you find yourself tempted to put your relationships with others above God?
4. Read Luke 7:24-28. What does Jesus say about John? What do you think Jesus means by “the one who is least in the kingdom is greater than he?”
5. How does John’s death foreshadow Jesus’ death? How is Jesus’ death greater in what it accomplishes than John’s?

February 13: Genesis 42-43, Romans 5

Pray for non-Christians

February 14: Genesis 44-45, Romans 6

Pray for Redeemer’s mission team

February 15: Genesis 46-47, Romans 7

Pray for the Baniks & Redeemer’s Benevolence Ministry

February 16: Genesis 48-49; 50:15-21, Romans 8

Pray for a heart for the Gospel

February 17: Mark 6:30-44

February 18: Psalms 19-21

Psalm 19:

“Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer” (19:14).

Spend time praying that this would be true of your words and heart as well. That all you say and all that occupies your heart and mind would be pleasing to the Lord. Ask God to show you where you need to repent and turn to him.

Psalm 20:

“Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God” (20:7).

Pray and ask God to help you trust him fully and completely. Even when things in your life are difficult to understand, pray that God would help you to trust in him and not anyone or anything else. Pray that your trust would be in God alone.

Psalm 21:

Psalm 21 is a prayer of praise and rejoicing in the strength of the Lord. Take time to praise and rejoice in the God of your salvation. Make a list of specific ways you have seen God answer prayers and provide for you, your family, and your friends. Write a Psalm of praise to God!

TAKE NOTES

FEBRUARY 19-25

February 19: Mark 6:30-44

1. What stands out to you from this week's passage and/ or the sermon?
2. What does verse 34 say about why Jesus had compassion on the crowd?
3. Now read Genesis 48:15, Numbers 27:17, Psalm 23:1-4, and Isaiah 40:11. Notice what God promises in Jeremiah 23:2-4 and Ezekiel 34:10-16. How do these Old Testament texts shed light on who Jesus is and what he came to do (also note John 10:11)?
4. What do you think the disciples might have felt when Jesus asked them to provide something to eat for the large crowd?
5. What is Jesus revealing about his power and authority to the disciples through the miracle of multiplying the loaves and fish?
6. Are there areas of your life where you feel you have limited resources? How can this passage help you trust in the power and authority of God for provision?

February 20: Exodus 1-2, Romans 9

Pray for non-Christians

February 21: Exodus 3-4, Romans 10

Pray for Redeemer's mission team

February 22: Exodus 7-8, Romans 11

Pray for the Baniks & Redeemer's Benevolence Ministry

February 23: Exodus 9-10, Romans 12

Pray for a heart for the Gospel

February 24: Mark 6:45-56

February 25: Psalms 22-24

Psalm 22:

I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you: You who fear the Lord, praise him (22:22-23).

Praise God for his saving power in your life. Praise him for how he reigns as Lord over all creation. Pray that your heart would be positioned to worship him today for who he is and what he has done.

Psalm 23:

He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul (23:2-3).

Spend a few moments asking God to show areas of your heart and soul that need to be restored. Pray that God would replace any present anxiety with his peace.

Psalm 24:

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully. He will receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation. (23:3-5)

Praise Jesus for the cross and for making a way for you to be reconciled with God forever. Thank him for making a way to receive blessing and righteousness from God through his death. Take a few minutes to think about any friends, coworkers, or family members that have not yet received the Gospel. Pray that the Lord would open their eyes to his mercy and grace.

TAKE NOTES

FEBRUARY 26-29

February 26: Mark 6:45-56

- 1. What stands out to you from this week's passage and/or the sermon?
- 2. What does this passage tell us about Jesus and his character?
- 3. Why do you think Jesus dismissed the crowd even when there was seemingly more ministry to do? What does he do immediately after he dismisses the crowd? Why do you think Jesus often goes away on his own to pray?
- 4. When Jesus walks on the water and joins the disciples in the boat, how do they react? Why do you think that is? How does Jesus respond to their fear?
- 5. What makes you feel most afraid? What would it look like for you to surrender and trust Jesus with these fears?
- 6. Spend a few minutes praying that God would replace your fear with courage found in his love and presence.

February 27: Exodus 11-12, Romans 13

Pray for non-Christians

February 28: Exodus 13-14, Romans 14

Pray for Redeemer's mission team

February 29: Exodus 16-17, Romans 15

Pray for the Baniks & Redeemer's Benevolence Ministry

TAKE NOTES

YEARLY PLAN OVERVIEW

JANUARY

1. Mark 4:1-21
2. Genesis 1:1-2:3, John 1
3. Genesis 2:4-25, John 2-3
4. Genesis 3, John 4
5. Genesis 4, John 5
6. Mark 4:21-34
7. Psalms 1-3
8. Mark 4:21-34
9. Genesis 6, John 6
10. Genesis 7, John 7
11. Genesis 8:1-19, John 8
12. Genesis 8:20-9:29, John 9
13. Mark 4:35-41
14. Psalms 4-6
15. Mark 4:35-41
16. Genesis 11:1-9, John 10
17. Genesis 12:1-9, John 11
18. Genesis 15, John 12
19. Genesis 16, John 13
20. Mark 5:1-20
21. Psalms 7-9
22. Mark 5:1-20
23. Genesis 17, John 14
24. Genesis 21:1-21, John 15
25. Genesis 22 - 23, John 16
26. Genesis 24, John 17
27. Mark 5:21-43
28. Psalms 10-12
29. Mark 5:21-43
30. Genesis 25, John 18
31. Genesis 27, John 19

FEBRUARY

1. Genesis 29:1-30:24, John 20
2. Genesis 32-33, John 21
3. Sermon Passage
4. Psalms 13-15
5. Sermon Passage
6. Genesis 35, Romans 1
7. Genesis 37, Romans 2
8. Genesis 39, Romans 3
9. Genesis 40-41, Romans 4
10. Sermon Passage
11. Psalms 16-18
12. Sermon Passage
13. Genesis 42-43, Romans 5
14. Genesis 44-45, Romans 6
15. Genesis 46-47, Romans 7
16. Genesis 48-49; 50:15-21, Romans 8
17. Sermon Passage
18. Psalms 19-21
19. Sermon Passage
20. Exodus 1-2, Romans 9
21. Exodus 3-4, Romans 10
22. Exodus 7-8, Romans 11
23. Exodus 9-10, Romans 12
24. Sermon Passage
25. Psalms 22-24
26. Sermon Passage
27. Exodus 11-12, Romans 13
28. Exodus 13-14, Romans 14
29. Exodus 16-17, Romans 15

MARCH

1. Exodus 19:1-20:21, Romans 16
2. Sermon Passage
3. Psalms 25-27
4. Sermon Passage
5. Exodus 24:1-25:22, 1 Corinthians 1
6. Exodus 26, 1 Corinthians 2-3
7. Exodus 32-33, 1 Corinthians 4
8. Exodus 34; Exodus 40,
1 Corinthians 5
9. Sermon Passage
10. Psalms 28-30
11. Sermon Passage
12. Leviticus 1, 1 Corinthians 6-7
13. Leviticus 4, 1 Corinthians 8-9
14. Leviticus 11, 1 Corinthians 10
15. Leviticus 16, 1 Corinthians 11
16. Sermon Passage
17. Psalms 31-33
18. Sermon Passage
19. Leviticus 19, 1 Corinthians 12-13
20. Leviticus 23, 1 Corinthians 14
21. Leviticus 25, 1 Corinthians 15
22. Leviticus 26, 1 Corinthians 16
23. Sermon Passage
24. Psalms 34-36
25. Sermon Passage
26. Numbers 1-2, 2 Corinthians 1
27. Numbers 6:1-7:17, 2 Corinthians 2
28. Numbers 9-10, 2 Corinthians 3
29. Numbers 11, 2 Corinthians 4
30. Sermon Passage
31. Psalms 37-39

YEARLY PLAN OVERVIEW

APRIL

1. Sermon Passage
2. Numbers 13-14, 2 Corinthians 5
3. Numbers 20, 2 Corinthians 6
4. Numbers 27:12-23,
2 Corinthians 7-8
5. Numbers 28:1-29:11,
2 Corinthians 9
6. Sermon Passage
7. Psalms 40-42
8. Sermon Passage
9. Deuteronomy 1:1-2:25,
2 Corinthians 10
10. Deuteronomy 3:23-4:49,
2 Corinthians 11
11. Deuteronomy 5-6, 2 Corinthians 12
12. Deuteronomy 7:1-9:12,
2 Corinthians 13
13. Sermon Passage
14. Psalms 43-45
15. Sermon Passage
16. Deuteronomy 10-11, Luke 1
17. Deuteronomy 14:1-16:8, Luke 2
18. Deuteronomy 17:14-18:22, Luke 3
19. Deuteronomy 28, Luke 4
20. Sermon Passage
21. Psalms 46-48
22. Sermon Passage
23. Deuteronomy 29-30, Luke 5
24. Deuteronomy 31, Luke 6
25. Deuteronomy 32, Luke 7
26. Deuteronomy 33-34, Luke 8
27. Sermon Passage
28. Psalms 49-51
29. Sermon Passage
30. Joshua 1-2, Luke 9

MAY

1. Joshua 3, Luke 10
2. Joshua 6-7, Luke 11
3. Joshua 23-24, Luke 12
4. Sermon Passage
5. Psalms 52-54
6. Sermon Passage
7. Judges 1-2, Luke 13
8. Judges 4-5, Luke 14
9. Judges 6:11-8:35, Luke 15
10. Judges 20-21, Luke 16
11. Sermon Passage
12. Psalms 55-57
13. Sermon Passage
14. Ruth 1-2, Luke 17
15. Ruth 3-4, Luke 18
16. 1 Samuel 1-2, Luke 19
17. 1 Samuel 3-4, Luke 20
18. Sermon Passage
19. Psalms 58-60
20. Sermon Passage
21. 1 Samuel 6-7, Luke 21
22. 1 Samuel 8-9, Luke 22
23. 1 Samuel 10-11, Luke 23
24. 1 Samuel 15-16, Luke 24
25. Sermon Passage
26. Psalms 61-63
27. Sermon Passage
28. 1 Samuel 17-18, Acts 1
29. 1 Samuel 19-20, Acts 2
30. 1 Samuel 24-25, Acts 3
31. 1 Samuel 30-31, Acts 4

JUNE

1. Sermon Passage
2. Psalms 64-66
3. Sermon Passage
4. 2 Samuel 1:1-2:7, Acts 5-6
5. 2 Samuel 5-6, Acts 7
6. 2 Samuel 7, Acts 8
7. 2 Samuel 9, Acts 9
8. Sermon Passage
9. Psalms 67-69
10. Sermon Passage
11. 2 Samuel 11-12, Acts 10
12. 2 Samuel 23-24, Acts 11-12
13. 1 Kings 1-2, Acts 13
14. 1 Kings 3-4, Acts 14
15. Sermon Passage
16. Psalms 70-72
17. Sermon Passage
18. 1 Kings 5-6, Acts 15
19. 1 Kings 8, Acts 16
20. 1 Kings 11:1-12:24, Acts 17
21. 1 Kings 15:8-16:34, Acts 18
22. Sermon Passage
23. Psalms 73-75
24. Sermon Passage
25. 1 Kings 17:1-18:19, Acts 19
26. 1 Kings 18:20-19:21, Acts 20
27. 2 Kings 1-2, Acts 21
28. 2 Kings 17, Acts 22-23
29. Sermon Passage
30. Psalms 76-78

YEARLY PLAN OVERVIEW

JULY

1. Sermon Passage
2. 2 Kings 18, Acts 24-25
3. 2 Kings 19-20, Acts 26
4. 2 Kings 22-23, Acts 27
5. 2 Kings 24:1-25:21, Acts 28
6. Sermon Passage
7. Psalms 79-81
8. Sermon Passage
9. 1 Chronicles 1-2,
Galatians 1:1-2:14
10. 1 Chronicles 28-29,
Galatians 2:15-3:29
11. 2 Chronicles 1, Galatians 4:1-5:15
12. 2 Chronicles 5-7,
Galatians 5:16-6:18
13. Sermon Passage
14. Psalms 82-84
15. Sermon Passage
16. 2 Chronicles 8-9,
Ephesians 1:1-2:10
17. 2 Chronicles 29-30,
Ephesians 2:11-3:21
18. 2 Chronicles 34,
Ephesians 4:1-5:21
19. 2 Chronicles 35-36, Ephesians
5:22-6:24
20. Sermon Passage
21. Psalms 85-87
22. Sermon Passage
23. Ezra 1; 3, Philippians 1
24. Ezra 6-7, Philippians 2
25. Nehemiah 1-2, Philippians 3
26. Nehemiah 3-4, Philippians 4
27. Sermon Passage
28. Psalms 88-90
29. Sermon Passage
30. Nehemiah 8-9, Colossians 1
31. Nehemiah 13, Colossians 2

AUGUST

1. Esther 1-3, Colossians 3
2. Esther 4-5, Colossians 4
3. Sermon Passage
4. Psalms 91-93
5. Sermon Passage
6. Esther 6-7, 1 Thessalonians 1:1-
2:16
7. Esther 8-10, 1 Thessalonians 2:17-
3:13
8. Job 1-2, 1 Thessalonians 4
9. Job 3-4, 1 Thessalonians 5
10. Sermon Passage
11. Psalms 94-96
12. Sermon Passage
13. Job 19-20, 2 Thessalonians 1:1-2:12
14. Job 38-39, 2 Thessalonians 2:13-
3:18
15. Job 40, 1 Timothy 1
16. Job 41-42, 1 Timothy 2
17. Sermon Passage
18. Psalms 97-99
19. Sermon Passage
20. Proverbs 1-2, 1 Timothy 3
21. Proverbs 3-4, 1 Timothy 4
22. Proverbs 8-9, 1 Timothy 5
23. Proverbs 10-11, 1 Timothy 6
24. Sermon Passage
25. Psalms 100-102
26. Sermon Passage
27. Proverbs 15-16, 2 Timothy 1
28. Proverbs 27-28, 2 Timothy 2
29. Proverbs 31, 2 Timothy 3
30. Ecclesiastes 1-2, 2 Timothy 4
31. Sermon Passage

SEPTEMBER

1. Psalms 103-105
2. Sermon Passage
3. Ecclesiastes 3-4, Titus 1
4. Ecclesiastes 12, Titus 2
5. Song of Solomon 1-2, Titus 3
6. Song of Solomon 8, Philemon
7. Sermon Passage
8. Psalms 106-108
9. Sermon Passage
10. Isaiah 1-2, Hebrews 1-2
11. Isaiah 5, Hebrews 3-4
12. Isaiah 6-7, Hebrews 5-6
13. Isaiah 9, Isaiah 11, Hebrews 7
14. Sermon Passage
15. Psalms 109-111
16. Sermon Passage
17. Isaiah 24-25, Hebrews 8-9
18. Isaiah 26-27, Hebrews 10
19. Isaiah 30, Hebrews 11:1-12:4
20. Isaiah 40-41, Hebrews 12:5-13:25
21. Sermon Passage
22. Psalms 112-114
23. Sermon Passage
24. Isaiah 42-43, Matthew 1-2
25. Isaiah 49-50, Matthew 3-4
26. Isaiah 52-53, Matthew 5
27. Isaiah 55-56, Matthew 6-7
28. Sermon Passage
29. Psalms 115-117
30. Sermon Passage

YEARLY PLAN OVERVIEW

OCTOBER

1. Isaiah 58-59, Matthew 8
2. Isaiah 60-61, Matthew 9
3. Isaiah 62-63, Matthew 10
4. Isaiah 65-66, Matthew 11
5. Sermon Passage
6. Psalms 118
7. Sermon Passage
8. Jeremiah 1-2, Matthew 12
9. Jeremiah 9-10, Matthew 13
10. Jeremiah 13-14, Matthew 14
11. Jeremiah 25, Matthew 15
12. Sermon Passage
13. Psalms 119: 1-96
14. Sermon Passage
15. Jeremiah 29-30, Matthew 16
16. Jeremiah 31, 33, Matthew 17
17. Jeremiah 52, Lamentations 1
Matthew 18
18. Lamentations 3, Matthew 19-20
19. Sermon Passage
20. Psalms 199:97-176
21. Sermon Passage
22. Ezekiel 1, Matthew 21
23. Ezekiel 2-3, Matthew 22
24. Ezekiel 4-5, Matthew 23
25. Ezekiel 10-11, Matthew 24
26. Sermon Passage
27. Psalms 120-122
28. Sermon Passage
29. Ezekiel 15-16, Matthew 25
30. Ezekiel 33-34, Matthew 26
31. Ezekiel 36-37, Matthew 27

NOVEMBER

1. Ezekiel 39:21-40:19; 48:30-35
Matthew 28
2. Sermon Passage
3. Psalms 123-125
4. Sermon Passage
5. Daniel 1-2, James 1
6. Daniel 3-4, James 2
7. Daniel 5-6, James 3:1-4:12
8. Daniel 7, Daniel 12,
James 4:13-5:20
9. Sermon Passage
10. Psalms 126-128
11. Sermon Passage
12. Hosea 1-2, 1 Peter 1:1-2:10
13. Hosea 3-4, 1 Peter 2:11-3:12
14. Hosea 10-11, 1 Peter 3:13-4:11
15. Hosea 13-14, 1 Peter 4:12-5:14
16. Sermon Passage
17. Psalms 129-131
18. Sermon Passage
19. Joel 1-2, 2 Peter 1
20. Amos 1-2, 2 Peter 2
21. Amos 5-6, 2 Peter 3
22. Amos 9, Jude
23. Sermon Passage
24. Psalms 132-134
25. Sermon Passage
26. Obadiah, 1 John 1:1-2:17
27. Jonah 1-2, 1 John 2:18-3:10
28. Jonah 3-4, 1 John 3:11- 4:21
29. Micah 1-2, 1 John 5
30. Sermon Passage

DECEMBER

1. Psalms 135-137
2. Sermon Passage
3. Micah 4-5, 2 John
4. Micah 6-7, 3 John
5. Nahum 1, Revelation 1-2
6. Nahum 2-3, Revelation 3
7. Sermon Passage
8. Psalms 138-140
9. Sermon Passage
10. Habakkuk 1-2, Revelation 4
11. Habakkuk 3, Revelation 5-6
12. Zephaniah 1-2, Revelation 7
13. Zephaniah 3, Revelation 8-9
14. Sermon Passage
15. Psalms 141-143
16. Sermon Passage
17. Haggai, Revelation 10-11
18. Zechariah 1 and 3, Revelation
12-13
19. Zechariah 7-8, Revelation 14
20. Zechariah 9-10, Revelation 15-16
21. Sermon Passage
22. Psalms 144-147
23. Sermon Passage
24. Zechariah 11-12, Revelation 17-18
25. Zechariah 13-14, Revelation 19-20
26. Malachi 1-2, Revelation 21
27. Malachi 3-4, Revelation 22
28. Sermon Passage
29. Psalms 148-150
30. Sermon Passage
31. End of the year reflection

HOW TO APPROACH THE BIBLE

At Redeemer, we believe that the Holy Scriptures are the unfolding revelation of the greatness and graciousness of the Triune God, they declare the covenant promises of His Kingdom and His people, and they instruct from generation to generation the great deeds of the Lord.

Despite the fact that the Bible was written by 40 authors on 3 continents over thousands of years, it tells one coherent story. From beginning to end, the 66 books of the Bible tell the story of our all-powerful and loving King and Rescuer. This King made us in His image, but we, desiring to take His place, rebelled and incurred his just and holy wrath- but far from that being the tragic end to the story, it was merely the title page. For thousands of years, God's foreordained, perfect plan was coming to fruition. God Himself would come to earth- to live the life required of us, die the death that we deserved, and reconcile us to Himself by His own blood.

The Scriptures are one of God's means of grace to us, written under the inspiration of His Spirit so that we might know Him and enjoy Him forever. As J.I. Packer has written, "The word which God addresses directly to us is an instrument not only of government but also of fellowship. He made us with the intention that we might walk together forever in a love relationship. But such a relationship can exist only when the parties know something of each other. God, our Maker, knows all about us before we say anything; but we can know nothing of him unless he tells us. Therefore, God sends his word...to woo us as well as to instruct us."

This means that the Bible cannot merely be read merely intellectually. There is nothing given to us in the Bible simply to be known. His Word has been given to us that we might know Him through it, and, by the power of His Spirit, be changed into His likeness by it. His Word is a vehicle for your communion with the thrice-holy, living, gracious God, given to you because God wants you to know and love Him, even as He knows and loves you.

THE HEAR METHOD

Each month, we will be including a different suggested method for reading Scripture. This month, we are including the HEAR method which is a four step method that both helps us understand and interact with each passage of scripture

The most important thing in beginning Bible study is simply to come before the Lord prayerfully, patiently, and persistently. However, whether we realize it or not, each of us has a “method” in how we approach God’s Word, and some methods are more helpful than others. The HEAR Method was developed by Robby Gallaty, and we have found it particularly useful, because it sets the table well for any Christian, providing the tools necessary to mine a spiritual gem in 10 minutes, as well as to dig deep for an hour.

Highlight, Explain, Apply, Respond.

Highlight: What is the main point? Is there a verse or phrase that captures it?

Explain: What does this passage mean? Try to summarize its meaning in your own words. A proper interpretation of any passage must:

- Be clearly reflected in the text
- Be timeless
- Not be culturally bound
- Correspond to the rest of Scripture
- Be relevant both to the Biblical audience as well as a contemporary audience

A Few Questions to Ask to Uncover the Meaning of a Passage

- What do the key terms mean?
- How do the verses or phrases relate to each other?
- How does this passage fit into the larger story of the book it is in?
- How does this passage relate to the story of the Bible as a whole?
- How does this passage speak about or point to Jesus or our need?

Apply: How should this passage apply to my life today?

- Is there an application already in the text?
- Is there sin to confess, a promise to claim, a command to obey?
- What would the main point of this verse practically look like in my life today?

Respond: Is there anything I need to remember, rejoice in, request, or repent of?

- How does this show me something about the character of God for which I can praise him? (What happens in my life when I forget this?)
- How does this show me something wrong with me — some sin of which this convicts me — for which I can repent? (How does my faith and salvation in Christ help me escape this?)
- How does this show me something that I need that I should be petitioning God for? (What do I lack in my life that I should seeking?)

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?

We use the word “gospel” a lot, because it’s the word that summarizes the basic Christian message. “Gospel” means “good news,” and the Christian gospel is the good news of what God has done for us through Jesus. Here are two ways to understand the gospel message. If you’d like to learn more about the gospel or gain confidence in sharing and explaining it, consider signing up for our [Gospel Essentials class](#) starting January 14.

GOD SAVES SINNERS

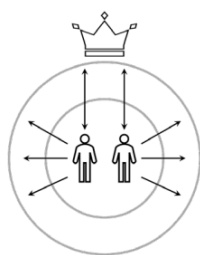
J.I. Packer offers a short definition of the gospel as “God saves sinners:”

God – the Triune Jehovah, Father, Son and Spirit; three Persons working together in sovereign wisdom, power and love to achieve the salvation of a chosen people, the Father electing, the Son fulfilling the Father’s will by redeeming, the Spirit executing the purpose of Father and Son by renewing.

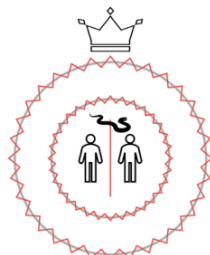
Saves – does everything, first to last, that is involved in bringing man from death in sin to life in glory: plans, achieves and communicates redemption, calls and keeps, justifies, sanctifies, glorifies.

Sinners – men as God finds them, guilty, vile, helpless, powerless, unable to lift a finger to do God’s will or better their spiritual lot. God saves sinners... sinners do not save themselves in any sense at all, but that salvation, first and last, whole and entire, past, present and future, is of the Lord, to whom be glory for ever; amen.

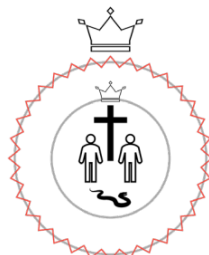
THE GOSPEL IN FIVE CIRCLES



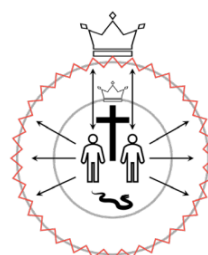
1. CREATION



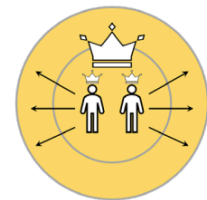
2. FALL



3. REDEMPTION



4. NEW LIFE



5. NEW CREATION

But then comes the Fall: the world (and our lives) are ruined by our rebellion. We listened to the fallen angel called the Serpent (Satan), abandoning God’s plan for our own, and as a result our souls, our relationships, and the entire world are corrupted by sin, decay, and death.

Thankfully, God doesn’t leave us there: God rescues and reconciles us through his Redeemer. God the Son entered the world as the divine-human Jesus to break the power of the Serpent, die as a sacrificial lamb to pay the price for our rebellion, and reconcile us to God.

Now in Jesus, we have New Life: God restores us to be able to reflect his glory again. When we come to belong to Jesus by faith, we are adopted into God’s family and empowered to live like God (in holiness and love) and for God’s kingdom in the world.

And it gets better! One day, God will re-create the world perfectly and rest forever with his people. There will be no more sin, suffering, or evil, and we will live in resurrected bodies in a reunited heaven and earth with God.