

# BIBLE READING PLAN

We would love to help you on this journey as we know it can be difficult to know where to start, especially when it comes to reading the Bible. We have put together a Bible devotional to help you get started.

## DAY 1

**For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16**

This Bible verse is often quoted and memorised, and sometimes when things become familiar, they tend to lose their power. Let me encourage you to read that again and let it sink in. God loves the world. God loves you! God loves your family! God loves people so much that He gave up what was most precious, His own Son, in order to make a way for us to be reunited with Him. Your current mood, your past, or your experiences of love do not get to define how God sees you. When God sees you, He sees someone He loves deeply! Whatever you face today, know that you are loved by God, the creator of the universe is wild about you!

**Prayer:**

Thank you, God, that you love me. Thank you that you sent your Son to save me. Thank you that no matter my past experiences or my current realities, you call me Beloved, and I can rest in the knowledge that I am loved by you. No matter what I face today, God, please help me to hold tightly to the knowledge that I am loved by You. Amen.

## DAY 2

**As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. Psalm 103:12**

It can be hard to really believe that God loves us. Especially after some of the things we have done, said or even thought. But the truth is, The Bible tells us that when we choose to believe in Him, those sins are removed as far as the East is from the West (Psalm 103). When God looks at you now, He doesn't see your sin or shame. He has removed it and you can walk with your head held high as you are now called a child of God. Don't allow your past to rob you of a future. Lay down those troubles and head into your future with your head held high, because God has a plan for your life!

**Prayer:**

Thank you, Lord that you have removed my sins so that I can be free of the shame of my past. I ask that you help me to let go of my past so that I can take hold of the future that you have for me. In the mighty name of Jesus, Amen.

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## DAY 3

**For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10**

God has a plan and a purpose for you! In Ephesians, we see that God has "prepared good works for us to do." That simply means that God has a plan for your lives. Now God is incredibly gentle with us and He won't force us to do something we don't want to do. He has given us free will. But He invites us into more, giving us to freedom to choose to follow His plans and go on this great adventure to see what incredible things He has in store for us. When we choose to follow God's plans for our lives, we get to see extraordinary things happen. Even when we don't feel like we know how or what to do, God equips us every step of the way, and when we look back on our lives we see how He helps us and prepares us as He gently leads us toward our future.

**Prayer:**

Thank you, God, that you have a plan for my life. I have tried many different things and tried to do things my own way. I submit to your plans for my life, and I ask you to lead me into the future that You have for me. Not my will Lord, but yours be done. Amen.

## DAY 4

**And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. 39 No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38–39**

How incredible and reassuring it is to know that there is nothing that can separate us from God's love! Sometimes when we mess up (and we all mess up sometimes) we feel like God must not love us anymore. But the wonderful news is that no matter how much we mess up, God still loves us. Imagine a young child learning to walk. We don't get angry every time the child falls down. We love them and put them back on their feet so that they can try again. That is exactly God's heart for you. If you feel like you are messing up, know that God is right there, ready to catch you, encourage you and put you right back on your feet to keep trying. God loves you and He wants to see you succeed more than you could ever know. Don't get up on yourself, because God won't either.

**Prayer:**

Thank you, God, that you love me even when I mess up. Thank you that you forgive me time and time again. Thank you for this encouragement today. Please help me to remember your love for me and empower me to keep moving forward. Even if others don't believe in me, I know that you are in my corner and so all things are possible with your strength and power at work in me. Amen

# BIBLE READING PLAN

## DAY 5

**Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God. Romans 12:2**

It can be difficult to know what to do or how to act now that you've decided to follow God's will and His ways for your life. Be encouraged though, you have made it to Day 5 of this devotional so you are on the right track! The Bible encourages us not to conform to the ways of the world, so even though you may be tempted to go back to old patterns or follow worldly advice, stand firm. You can be transformed in all your ways through the renewing of your mind. That simply means to change the way you think. We can change the way we think by firstly taking notice of what we are thinking about and then asking God to give us His thoughts. Neuroscientist Dr. Caroline Leaf uses science to prove the Bible. In her book "Switch on your brain", she proves that our brains can be changed and transformed by renewing our thinking. Take courage as you take your thoughts captive and transform your life for good!

**Prayer:**

God, I thank you that you have given me the strength to overcome the temptation to go back to conforming to the world's ways. I pray that you will continue helping me to grow in the knowledge of your ways. Will you give me the mind of Christ to avoid temptation and know what your good, pleasing, and perfect will is for me today and every day. In Jesus name Amen.

## DAY 6

**Christ has set us free to live a free life. So take your stand! Never again let anyone put a harness of slavery on you. Galatians 5:1 (MSG)**

Well done for making it to day 6 of this devotional! It can be difficult to create new habits and new ways of doing things, but you are off to a great start. There may be people who don't believe you have changed, there may be circumstances and behaviours that threaten to pull you back to old patterns of thought or actions, but be encouraged to stand firm! You have been set free by God and you can walk free. There is no need to perform in order to earn God's love and there is no need to go back to old patterns and old ways. You are FREE and you can stay FREE!

**Prayer:**

Thank you, Lord, that I am FREE! Help me to stay free and to avoid the temptation to believe otherwise. Thank you that no matter how many times I mess up, I can always come back to you and ask for your forgiveness. Thank you that you forgive me over and over again. Please empower me by your Holy Spirit to make the adjustments in my thinking and my actions in order that I don't submit again to my old ways. Thank you, Jesus for your Grace. Amen

# BIBLE READING PLAN

## DAY 7

**Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another—showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God’s way. Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us. 2 Timothy 3:17**  
**MSG**

You’ve made it to day 7. That’s one whole week of reading a Bible plan. Well done! So where to from here? We as Christians believe that the Bible is the ultimate authority in our lives. So let the reading of your Bible lead the way! As it says in the above scripture, the Bible will shape us for the task ahead. It doesn’t really matter which Bible version you read, or where you start in the Bible, but if you read the Bible with the hope of hearing from God, He will speak to you and He will allow the words on the pages to transform you! We are so excited for you!

### **Prayer:**

Thank you, God, for your word. Thank you that I can read the Bible and find out more about who you are. Will you teach me, guide me, and speak to me as I read the pages of your word? Thank you that I never have to feel alone when I have access to your word. Amen

### **BIBLE READING:**

You’ve completed the 7-day reading plan, now what? If you are unsure where to start reading the Bible. Why not start in the book of John? In John you will learn about the life and teachings of Jesus, so it’s a great place to start. Also, John has 21 chapters, so you can read one chapter a day for 21 days. They say it takes 21 days to create a habit. So, 21 days of reading John will shape a healthy habit and love of reading God’s word.

### **OTHER HELPFUL RESOURCES:**

We are so excited for you, and we want you to step into all that God has for you. So here are some other helpful resources for you!

### **READING PLANS:**

If you have a smart phone you can download “the Bible app” from Life Church. They have incredible devotional reading plans, the whole Bible in many translations and languages and much more. Plus, it’s all free!

### **HELPFUL BOOKS:**

There are many incredible Christian books available. Here are just a few we recommend.

- How to Grow by Darryl Dash
- What’s Next by Chris Hodges
- Unlocking the Bible by David Pawson
- Live no Lies by John Mark Comer
- Winning the War in your Mind by Craig Groeschel
- Building below the Waterline by Gordon Macdonald