



FBC Reading Plan
January 2019

Why a Reading Plan: God speaks to people through His Word. It is what He uses to transform our lives by orienting our minds toward His truth and aligning our heart toward what He loves. The aim of this reading plan is not to merely check a box off a list, but to encourage our church body to spend time hearing from God. Here at FBC we want to provide you with the tools to grow. This reading plan aligns with the Sunday morning message and Life Group times.

How to use this booklet: Each week you will start with the passage that the sermon that coming Sunday will be based on. Each week will have a theme and each reading will compliment that theme. The passages are relatively short to encourage you to spend more time thinking through a passage and writing down a few thoughts. We have provided at least one question to give you something to think through. However, we do encourage the H.E.A.R. method. Because the passages are shorter, the reading is the **highlight**. We encourage you to then write a short **explanation** of what the passage is saying and the big idea the author is trying to communicate. We think **application** is a crucial part of a transformation process. In this section, you are writing down how you can apply the truth from this passage to your life. Application should always be done in a spirit of prayer, as you are asking God to reveal to you how it applies. Finally, it is not enough to settle for knowing some truth or how it might apply to your life without a specific response. So we encourage you to write out a **response**. This can be a response to God or a specific action you will take as a result of your time with the Lord.

Memory Verse: This year, we want to challenge you to memorize a different passage of Scripture each month. That memory verse is provided on the next page in the ESV, NIV, and NLT versions.

January's Memory Verse

23 The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, 24 but he [Jesus] holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. 25 Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

Hebrews 7:23-25 (ESV)

23 Now there have been many of those priests, since death prevented them from continuing in office; 24 but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. 25 Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

Hebrews 7:23-25 (NIV)

23 There were many priests under the old system, for death prevented them from remaining in office. 24 But because Jesus lives forever, his priesthood lasts forever. 25 Therefore he is able, once and forever, to save those who come to God through him. He lives forever to intercede with God on their behalf.

Hebrews 7:23-25 (NLT)

Week 1: Perseverance

Starting Date December 31st

Day 1 Highlight: Hebrews 6:4-12

Explanation:

How does the illustration in vv. 7-8 help explain vv. 4-6?

Week 1: Perseverance

Starting Date December 31st

Application:

Response:

Week 1: Perseverance

Starting Date December 31st

Day 2 Highlight: Numbers 11:1-35

Explanation:

Why is God angry with his people? What happened to those who distrusted God's goodness and desired to go back to Egypt?

Week 1: Perseverance

Starting Date December 31st

Application:

Response:

Week 1: Perseverance

Starting Date December 31st

Day 3

Highlight: Mark 4:1-20

Explanation:

Every soil “hears” the word. What is it then that makes the “soils” different?

Week 1: Perseverance

Starting Date December 31st

Application:

Response:

Week 1: Perseverance

Starting Date December 31st

Day 4 Highlight: 2 Peter 2:17-22

Explanation:

“These” in v. 17 refer to false prophets (see 2:1). What have they done that makes their punishment worse than those who have never known God?

Week 1: Perseverance

Starting Date December 31st

Application:

Response:

Week 1: Perseverance

Starting Date December 31st

Day 5 Highlight: John 15:18-16:4

Explanation:

What causes believers to be in danger of falling away (16:1)?

Week 1: Perseverance

Starting Date December 31st

Application:

Response:

Week 2: Our Covenant-Keeping God

Starting Date January 7th

Day 1

Highlight: Hebrews 6:13-20

Explanation:

How does God's oath concerning Jesus encourage Christians?

Week 2: Our Covenant-Keeping God

Starting Date January 7th

Application:

Response:

Week 2: Our Covenant-Keeping God

Starting Date January 7th

Day 2 Highlight: Genesis 22:1-19

Explanation:

God already promised to give Abraham many descendants (e.g., Gen. 12:2; 15:5), and Isaac was the means of fulfilling that promise. What role does a person's obedience play in regard to the fulfillment of God's promises?

Week 2: Our Covenant-Keeping God

Starting Date January 7th

Application:

Response:

Week 2: Our Covenant-Keeping God

Starting Date January 7th

Day 3

Highlight: 1 Samuel 15:1-35

Explanation:

God makes an oath in this passage to reject Saul as king of Israel. How do you reconcile the tension between God not having regret (v. 29) and regretting he made Saul king (v. 35)? How do God's "oaths" confirm his character?

Week 2: Our Covenant-Keeping God

Starting Date January 7th

Application:

Response:

Week 2: Our Covenant-Keeping God

Starting Date January 7th

Day 4 Highlight: Romans 4:13-22

Explanation:

How is God's promise to Abraham fulfilled in those who have faith?

Week 2: Our Covenant-Keeping God

Starting Date January 7th

Application:

Response:

Week 2: Our Covenant-Keeping God

Starting Date January 7th

Day 5

Highlight: Psalm 37

Explanation:

How does certainty in God's promises help us wait patiently?

Week 2: Our Covenant-Keeping God

Starting Date January 7th

Application:

Response:

Week 3: Jesus: High Priest & King, Part 1

Starting Date January 14th

Day 1 Highlight: Hebrews 7:1-10

Explanation:

In light of what you've read so far in Hebrews, what is the point the author is trying to make by comparing Melchizedek to Abraham and Levi? How does this relate to his argument about Jesus in the rest of the book?

Week 3: Jesus: High Priest & King, Part 1

Starting Date January 14th

Application:

Response:

Week 3: Jesus: High Priest & King, Part 1

Starting Date January 14th

Day 2 Highlight: Genesis 14:1-24

Explanation:

How does the king of Sodom react differently to Abram's victory compared to Melchizedek's reaction? How does Abram react differently to these respective kings?

Week 3: Jesus: High Priest & King, Part 1

Starting Date January 14th

Application:

Response:

Week 3: Jesus: High Priest & King, Part 1

Starting Date January 14th

Day 3 Highlight: Numbers 18:21-32

Explanation:

In ancient Israel, was anyone exempt from giving a tithe (literally “a tenth”)? What effect should giving a tithe have on the giver?

Week 3: Jesus: High Priest & King, Part 1

Starting Date January 14th

Application:

Response:

Week 3: Jesus: High Priest & King, Part 1

Starting Date January 14th

Day 4

Highlight: Nehemiah 10:28-39

Explanation:

In this passage, the Israelites have returned to Israel after the exile and are rededicating themselves to the Lord. What is the purpose of tithes in this passage? How does that determine who collects the tithes?

Week 3: Jesus: High Priest & King, Part 1

Starting Date January 14th

Application:

Response:

Week 3: Jesus: High Priest & King, Part 1

Starting Date January 14th

Day 5 Highlight: Isaiah 44:6-20

Explanation:

What attributes of God are described in this passage? How do those compare with the attributes of idols?

Week 3: Jesus: High Priest & King, Part 1

Starting Date January 14th

Application:

Response:

Week 4: Jesus: High Priest & King, Part 2

Starting Date January 21st

Day 1 Highlight: Hebrews 7:11-28

Explanation:

What particular characteristic of Melchizedek does Jesus also have?
What effect does that have on our salvation?

Week 4: Jesus: High Priest & King, Part 2

Starting Date January 21st

Application:

Response:

Week 4: Jesus: High Priest & King, Part 2

Starting Date January 21st

Day 2 Highlight: Psalm 110

Explanation:

Although v. 4 talks about being a priest, the rest of the psalm clearly has a royal, kingly figure in mind (i.e., “scepter” in v. 2). In what ways would the mention of Melchizedek here have been surprising to ancient Israelites?

Week 4: Jesus: High Priest & King, Part 2

Starting Date January 21st

Application:

Response:

Week 4: Jesus: High Priest & King, Part 2

Starting Date January 21st

Day 3 Highlight: Ephesians 1:1-23

Explanation:

Jesus's "indestructible life" qualifies him to be an eternal high priest. How do we know his life is "indestructible"? What are other results of his indestructible life?

Week 4: Jesus: High Priest & King, Part 2

Starting Date January 21st

Application:

Response:

Week 4: Jesus: High Priest & King, Part 2

Starting Date January 21st

Day 4 Highlight: Galatians 3:15-29

Explanation:

Why could the law make nothing perfect?

Week 4: Jesus: High Priest & King, Part 2

Starting Date January 21st

Application:

Response:

Week 4: Jesus: High Priest & King, Part 2

Starting Date January 21st

Day 5 Highlight: Acts 13:13-53

Explanation:

The law of Moses cannot free us (v. 39). What, then, is the purpose of the law according to this passage?

Week 4: Jesus: High Priest & King, Part 2

Starting Date January 21st

Application:

Response:

Week 5: A Superior Covenant

Starting Date January 28th

Day 1 Highlight: Hebrews 8:1-13

Explanation:

According to Hebrews, what is the first covenant? What is the nature of the “new covenant”? Based on this passage and what we’ve read in Hebrews so far, what is the “fault” with the first covenant (v. 7)?

Week 5: A Superior Covenant

Starting Date January 28th

Application:

Response:

Week 5: A Superior Covenant

Starting Date January 28th

Day 2 Highlight: Exodus 25:1-40

Explanation:

Exodus 25-31 meticulously details the construction of the tabernacle, the altar, the Holy Place and Most Holy Place, and the priests' garments. Why do you think God included these sort of details in his Word? (Also, keep in mind that the tabernacle will be replaced by the temple under King Solomon.)

Week 5: A Superior Covenant

Starting Date January 28th

Application:

Response:

Week 5: A Superior Covenant

Starting Date January 28th

Day 3

Highlight: Jeremiah 31:27-40

Explanation:

Jeremiah 30-31 looks forward to the restoration of the people of Israel and Judah (30:3). If this is what they were expecting, how might have Jesus and his ministry been seen as a surprising fulfillment of Jeremiah's words?

Week 5: A Superior Covenant

Starting Date January 28th

Application:

Response:

Week 5: A Superior Covenant

Starting Date January 28th

Day 4

Highlight: 2 Corinthians 3:1-18

Explanation:

According to Paul, what is the old covenant? What is the nature of the “new covenant”? What is the primary difference between the two?

Week 5: A Superior Covenant

Starting Date January 28th

Application:

Response:

Week 5: A Superior Covenant

Starting Date January 28th

Day 5

Highlight: Luke 22:7-38

Explanation:

What is the connection between the new covenant and the kingdom of God?

Week 5: A Superior Covenant

Starting Date January 28th

Application:

Response:
