



**FBC Reading Plan**  
April 2021

**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. Reading the Bible is critical to a Christian's growth. But it is especially powerful to read the Bible with others. This reading plan is the basis for all of our D-Groups, and we hope it fosters deeper spiritual conversations in our families and between our members.

**How to use this booklet:** Each day has a passage of Scripture for you to read. There are also some questions to prompt your reading and reflecting on the passage. We encourage the H.E.A.R. method for reading Scripture, especially if it is a new discipline for you. First, **highlight** a verse or verses that speak to you from the passage. Then, **explain** what those verses mean in relation to the broader context and how they support the big idea the author is trying to communicate. Next, **apply** this verse to your everyday life. For example, how should this change your desires, your behavior, or your relationships? 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 finally **respond**. This can be a prayer or a specific action you will take after hearing this verse or passage.

**Memory Verse:** Because Scripture is God's Word, it is important that a Christian spend regular time memorizing God's Word so that he or she can always find encouragement and guidance from God. This month's memory passage is provided on the next page in the ESV, NIV, and NLT.

## Week 4: The Prophets of Israel

Starting Date April 26th

### Application:

Should we also "lament and wail" for our sins and the sins of others (1:8)? Why or why not?

### Response:

How is God calling you to respond to him today?

**Week 4: The Prophets of Israel**  
Starting Date April 26th

**Day 5** Highlight: Micah 1; 4:6-13; 5

*Memory Verse:* Philippians 4:7

**Explanation:**

What are some important themes in these passages?

**April's Memory Verses**

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. 5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; 6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**Philippians 4:4-7 (ESV)**

4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! 5 Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**Philippians 4:4-7 (NIV)**

4 Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice! 5 Let everyone see that you are considerate in all you do. Remember, the Lord is coming soon.

6 Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. 7 Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

**Philippians 4:4-7 (NLT)**

**Week 1: Proverbs**  
Starting Date April 5th

**Day 1** **Highlight:** Proverbs 1-2     *Memory Verse:* Philippians 4:4

**Explanation:**

What is “the fear of the Lord”? What does it mean that it is the “beginning of knowledge” (v. 7)?

**Week 4: The Prophets of Israel**  
Starting Date April 26th

**Application:**

66:14 summarizes the basic message of these last two chapters of Isaiah: “the hand of the Lord shall be known to his servants, and he shall show his indignation against his enemies.” What does it mean for you to be a servant of the Lord?

**Response:**

Are you someone who is humble, contrite, and trembles at the word of God? (66:2)

**Week 4: The Prophets of Israel**  
Starting Date April 26th

**Day 4** **Highlight:** Isaiah 65-66      *Memory Verse:* Philippians 4:7

**Explanation:**

Describe the character of God in contrast to the character of his people.

**Week 1: Proverbs**  
Starting Date April 5th

**Application:**

What happens to the person who understands, meditates on, and applies this book's teaching?

**Response:**

Do you desire to be wise? (See especially 2:1-5)

**Week 1: Proverbs**  
**Starting Date April 5th**

**Day 2** **Highlight:** Proverbs 3-4     *Memory Verse:* Philippians 4:4

**Explanation:**

Why is it wise to trust in the Lord with your whole being? Why is it wise to not be wise in your own eyes (3:7)?

Describe the wise person.

**Week 4: The Prophets of Israel**  
**Starting Date April 26th**

**Application:**

If this is how the servant of the Lord was treated, how should we, the servants of the Lord, expect to be treated today?

**Response:**

“Your God reigns” (52:7). Is that bringing you great joy today?

**Week 4: The Prophets of Israel**  
Starting Date April 26th

**Day 3** **Highlight:** Isaiah 52-53      *Memory Verse:* Philippians 4:7

**Explanation:**

What is the good news announced in ch. 52?

Why does the servant of the Lord suffer so much?

**Week 1: Proverbs**  
Starting Date April 5th

**Application:**

Based on your previous answer, in what ways are you like the wise person? In what ways are you not?

**Response:**

“Get wisdom” (4:7). How do you do that?

**Week 1: Proverbs**  
**Starting Date April 5th**

**Day 3** **Highlight:** Proverbs 16-18 *Memory Verse:* Philippians 4:4

**Explanation:**

We are expected to ponder and meditate on a proverb. So after reading these chapters, pick one to three proverbs that stand out to you and explain its meaning in depth.

**Week 4: The Prophets of Israel**  
**Starting Date April 26th**

**Application:**

What idols or potential idols do you see in your life?

**Response:**

Ask a close friend what idols they see in your life.



**Week 4: The Prophets of Israel**  
Starting Date April 26th

**Day 2** **Highlight:** Isaiah 44-45      *Memory Verse:* Philippians 4:7

**Explanation:**

What do these chapters teach us about idolatry? What do these chapters teach us about the one true God in comparison to idols?

**Week 1: Proverbs**  
Starting Date April 5th

**Application:**

Why did these specific proverbs stand out to you? How can you live more wisely after meditating on them?

**Response:**

In what situations or relationships in your life do you need to apply this wisdom?

**Week 1: Proverbs**  
**Starting Date April 5th**

**Day 4** **Highlight:** Proverbs 31      *Memory Verse:* Philippians 4:4

**Explanation:**

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What are some of the characteristics of the woman described in vv. 10-31?

**Week 4: The Prophets of Israel**  
**Starting Date April 26th**

**Application:**

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In these chapters we read a brief sample of Isaiah's preaching, which included both judgment and hope for salvation. Why are both of these themes, judgment and salvation, important? Why do they belong together?

**Response:**

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God has placed Jesus over his kingdom to rule it with justice and righteousness (9:7). How should the church extend the righteous and just rule of God?

**Week 4: The Prophets of Israel**  
Starting Date April 26th

**Day 1** **Highlight:** Isaiah 6; 9      *Memory Verse:* Philippians 4:7

**Explanation:**

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Summarize the message that God gave Isaiah to speak to Israel.

What is the cause of Israel's rejoicing in 9:2-7?

**Week 1: Proverbs**  
Starting Date April 5th

**Application:**

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In what ways does this chapter align with what our culture thinks it means to be a woman? In what ways does it contrast with our culture?

**Response:**

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Praise the women in your life who fear the Lord (v. 30).

**Week 1: Proverbs**  
Starting Date April 5th

**Day 5** **Highlight:** 1 Kings 11-12 *Memory Verse:* Philippians 4:4

**Explanation:**

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Who or what caused the split between Israel and Judah?

Which do you think was more powerful, the northern kingdom (Israel) or the southern kingdom (Judah)? Why?

**Week 3: The Prophets of Israel**  
Starting Date April 19th

**Application:**

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In what ways does God's justice make you fearful and in what ways does it instill hope?

**Response:**

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"The day of the Lord is coming; it is near" (2:1). Are you watching for it? (cf. Luke 12:35-40)

**Week 3: The Prophets of Israel**  
Starting Date April 19th

**Day 5** Highlight: Joel 1-3      *Memory Verse:* Philippians 4:6

**Explanation:**

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Describe the day of the Lord.

**Week 1: Proverbs**  
Starting Date April 5th

**Application:**

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How are Solomon and Rehoboam and Jeroboam warnings to us today who follow Jesus?

**Response:**

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Pray that God would keep you from temptation and guard you from the evil one.

**Week 2: King Ahab and the Prophets, Elijah & Elisha**  
Starting Date April 12th

**Day 1** Highlight: 1 Kings 16:29-34; 17

*Memory Verse:* Philippians 4:5

**Explanation:**

Why would God send Elijah to miraculously save a widow and her son from famine, only to let the son die from sickness later?

**Week 3: The Prophets of Israel**  
Starting Date April 19th

**Application:**

If this is who God is, how should you relate to him?

**Response:**

How do you respond to a God who will let no one escape the reach of his judgment?

**Week 3: The Prophets of Israel**  
Starting Date April 19th

**Day 4** **Highlight:** Amos 1:1; 9      *Memory Verse:* Philippians 4:6

**Explanation:**

What does this passage teach about God?

**Week 2: King Ahab and the Prophets, Elijah & Elisha**  
Starting Date April 12th

**Application:**

What does this story teach us about what it is like to follow God?

**Response:**

Consider how the widow and Elijah respond to God in this situation (17:18, 20). How do they encourage you to respond to God, especially in the midst of trials?

**Week 2: King Ahab and the Prophets, Elijah & Elisha**  
Starting Date April 12th

**Day 2** **Highlight:** 1 Kings 18-19 *Memory Verse:* Philippians 4:5

**Explanation:**

In what ways has Israel abandoned Yahweh?

What do we learn about God in these chapters?

**Week 3: The Prophets of Israel**  
Starting Date April 19th

**Application:**

How do these chapters apply to your life?

**Response:**

How do you respond to a God who loves you like a man who recommit himself to an adulterous wife?



**Week 3: The Prophets of Israel**  
Starting Date April 19th

**Day 3** **Highlight:** Hosea 1-3      *Memory Verse:* Philippians 4:6

**Explanation:**

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What does God call Hosea to do? Why does God call him to do this?

How does God judge his people for their sin? How does he show compassion on them?

**Week 2: King Ahab and the Prophets, Elijah & Elisha**  
Starting Date April 12th

**Application:**

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What gods are we tempted to serve today?

**Response:**

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God demands complete commitment from his people, and this remains true for us who follow Jesus: "How long will you go limping between two different opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him" (18:21).

**Week 2: King Ahab and the Prophets, Elijah & Elisha**  
Starting Date April 12th

**Day 3** Highlight: 1 Kings 21-22 Memory Verse: Philippians 4:5

**Explanation:**

How is power abused in these chapters?

If Ahab knows he has been enticed to fight in Ramoth-Gilead that he might die, why does he go and fight there anyway?

**Week 3: The Prophets of Israel**  
Starting Date April 19th

**Application:**

How do you relate to how Jonah feels at the end of the book?

**Response:**

Do not begrudge God's generosity (cf. Matthew 20:15).

### Week 3: The Prophets of Israel

Starting Date April 19th

**Day 2**

**Highlight:** Jonah 3-4

*Memory Verse:* Philippians 4:6

#### **Explanation:**

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How does God respond to Jonah's anger in this part of the book?

What is the main point of this book?

### Week 2: King Ahab and the Prophets, Elijah & Elisha

Starting Date April 12th

#### **Application:**

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Ahab illustrates all kinds of sinful desires and actions in these chapters.  
How does he reflect your own desires and actions at times?

#### **Response:**

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Amazingly, God responds mercifully to Ahab's humble repentance (21:25-29). Of what do you need to repent?

**Week 2: King Ahab and the Prophets, Elijah & Elisha**  
Starting Date April 12th

**Day 4** **Highlight:** 2 Kings 2      *Memory Verse:* Philippians 4:5

**Explanation:**

What is the main point of this chapter?

**Week 3: The Prophets of Israel**  
Starting Date April 19th

**Application:**

How are you stubbornly refusing the Lord?

**Response:**

Do not flee from the presence of the Lord.

**Week 3: The Prophets of Israel**  
Starting Date April 19th

**Day 1** Highlight: Jonah 1-2      *Memory Verse:* Philippians 4:6

**Explanation:**

In what ways are the sailors more godly than Jonah?

How does God respond to Jonah's disobedience in this part of the book?

**Week 2: King Ahab and the Prophets, Elijah & Elisha**  
Starting Date April 12th

**Application:**

What relevance does this chapter have to your life?

**Response:**

How is God calling you to respond to his word today?

**Week 2: King Ahab and the Prophets, Elijah & Elisha**  
Starting Date April 12th

**Day 5** Highlight: 2 Kings 5; 6:1-23

*Memory Verse:* Philippians 4:5

**Explanation:**

Why does Elisha refuse gifts from Naaman? Why is Gehazi punished for seeking out gifts from Naaman?

**Week 2: King Ahab and the Prophets, Elijah & Elisha**  
Starting Date April 12th

**Application:**

6:8-23 beautifully illustrates how faith allows us to see heavenly realities that others cannot. In what circumstances or relationships can you see clearly and in what situations or relationships do you need God to open your eyes?

**Response:**

Pray that God would open your eyes that you might see.