



FBC Reading Plan
December 2021

Why a Reading Plan: God speaks to people through His Word. It is what He uses to transform our lives by revealing truth to us 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 one to two questions to prompt your study of 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 main idea the author is trying to communicate. Next, **apply** this verse to your everyday life. What does this passage teach us about God? How does this passage point you to your need for Jesus? How do your thoughts, emotions, or actions need to change in light of this passage? Application should always be done in a spirit of prayer, as you are asking God to reveal to you how it applies. Finally, **respond**. This may be a specific action God is leading you to do. Very often it will be a prayer, either of thanksgiving, of confession of sin, or of petition asking for God's help.

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: Proverbs & Psalms

Starting Date December 27

Application:

Response:

Week 4: Proverbs & Psalms

Starting Date December 27

Day 5 Highlight: Proverbs 30-31; Psalm 150

Explanation:

Which wisdom sayings in Proverbs 30-31 stand out to you as particularly meaningful for your life right now?

December's Memory Verse

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

John 1:1-5 (ESV)

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

John 1:1-5 (NIV)

1 In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He existed in the beginning with God. 3 God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him. 4 The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.

John 1:1-5 (NLT)

Week 1: Proverbs & Psalms

Starting Date December 6

Day 1 Highlight: Proverbs 11; Psalm 96

Explanation:

Proverbs 10:1-22:16 contain what we typically think of when we think of proverbs. Individual proverbs provide specific, everyday examples of wisdom. Because they are not necessarily organized in any clear way, it is best to read the chapter then choose one or two to explain, meditate on, apply, and respond to for the day.

Why is it right and good to declare God's praises among the nations (v. 3, 7, 10)? How do we do this?

Week 4: Proverbs & Psalms

Starting Date December 27

Application: _____

Response: _____

Week 4: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 27

Day 4 Highlight: Proverbs 29; Psalm 149

Explanation:

Why is vengeance included within a psalm of praise (vv. 6-9)?

Week 1: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 6

Application:

Response:

We are reading one psalm each day of the reading plan in December. The psalms were meant to be used in worship, so consider not only studying the psalm but also using it as the basis of your prayer today.

Week 1: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 6

Day 2 Highlight: Proverbs 12; Psalm 97

Explanation:

Based on Psalm 97, who is God? What is an appropriate response to him?

Week 4: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 27

Application:

Response:

Week 4: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 27

Day 3 Highlight: Proverbs 28; Psalm 148

Explanation:

What is the psalmist trying to communicate by commanding all creation to praise God?

Week 1: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 6

Application:

Response:

Week 1: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 6

Day 3 Highlight: Proverbs 13; Psalm 98

Explanation:

Why does all creation (and why should we) rejoice and sing before the Lord?

Week 4: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 27

Application:

Response:

Week 4: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 27

Day 2 Highlight: Proverbs 27; Psalm 147

Explanation:

Why is it “good,” “pleasant,” and “fitting” (v. 1) to sing praises to God? Do you feel this way?

Week 1: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 6

Application: _____

Response: _____

Week 1: Proverbs & Psalms

Starting Date December 6

Day 4 Highlight: Proverbs 14; Psalm 99

Explanation:

The psalms from this week have all focused on God being king (95:3; 96:10; 97:1; 98:6; 99:1). In what ways is a God a good and mighty king? How does your life reflect that God alone is king?

Week 4: Proverbs & Psalms

Starting Date December 27

Application:

Response:

Week 4: Proverbs & Psalms

Starting Date December 27

Day 1 Highlight: Proverbs 26; Psalm 146

Explanation:

25:1-29:27 are more proverbs of Solomon. For the most part, these are one verse sayings with no particular arrangement. It best to read the chapter and then pick one or two to journal about.

Psalms 146-150 are psalms of praise ("Hallelujah" is a Hebrew word that means "Praise Yahweh"), and as such, form an appropriate conclusion for the entire psalter. What has God done that makes him worthy of our praise and adoration?

Week 1: Proverbs & Psalms

Starting Date December 6

Application:

Response:

Week 1: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 6

Day 5 Highlight: Proverbs 15; Psalm 100

Explanation:

Does the psalmist's excitement match your own?

Week 3: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 20

Application:

Response:

Week 3: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 20

Day 5 Highlight: Proverbs 25; Psalm 114

Explanation:

25:1-29:27 are more proverbs of Solomon. For the most part, these are one verse sayings with no particular arrangement. It best to read the chapter and then pick one or two to journal about.

What events from Israel's history are alluded to in this psalm? (Or if you're not sure, how could you find out?)

Week 1: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 6

Application:

Response:

Week 2: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 13

Day 1 Highlight: Proverbs 16; Psalm 103

Explanation:

Because the proverbs in this section of Proverbs are not necessarily organized in any clear way, it is best to read the chapter then choose one or two to explain, meditate on, apply, and respond to for the day.

Psalm 103 is a great biblical example of Christian meditation, which involves reminding ourselves of who God is and urging our soul to bless and praise him. Which of God's attributes or actions do you need to remind yourself of most today?

Week 3: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 20

Application:

Response:

Week 3: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 20

Day 4 **Highlight:** Proverbs 24; Psalm 113

Explanation:

Psalms 111-113 all begin with, "Praise the Lord!" Why in particular is God worthy of praise based on Psalm 113?

Week 2: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 13

Application: _____

Response: _____

Week 2: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 13

Day 2 Highlight: Proverbs 17; Psalm 104

Explanation:

Based on the context of the Psalm 104, what are God's "works" (v. 24, 31)?

Week 3: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 20

Application:

Response:

Week 3: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 20

Day 3 **Highlight:** Proverbs 23; Psalm 112

Explanation:

This psalm blesses the person who fears God. How does your life line up with this psalm?

Week 2: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 13

Application: _____

Response: _____

Week 2: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 13

Day 3 Highlight: Proverbs 18; Psalm 105

Explanation:

Which parts of Israel's history does this psalm retell? What is the purpose of this retelling?

Week 3: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 20

Application:

Response:

Week 3: Proverbs & Psalms

Starting Date December 20

Day 2 Highlight: Proverbs 22; Psalm 111

Explanation:

Proverbs 22:17-24:22 are a new section of Proverbs composed of “thirty sayings” of the wise (22:20). What similarities and differences do you notice between the proverbs of Solomon (10:1-22:16) and these wise sayings?

Week 2: Proverbs & Psalms

Starting Date December 13

Application:

Response:

Week 2: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 13

Day 4 **Highlight:** Proverbs 19; Psalm 106

Explanation:

Which parts of Israel's history does this psalm retell? What is the purpose of this retelling?

Week 3: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 20

Application:

Response:

Week 3: Proverbs & Psalms

Starting Date December 20

Day 1 Highlight: Proverbs 21; Psalm 110

Explanation:

Because the proverbs in this section of Proverbs are not necessarily organized in any clear way, it is best to read the chapter then choose one or two to explain, meditate on, apply, and respond to for the day.

This psalm may be familiar because it is cited several times in the New Testament. However, what would it have meant to its original Israelite audience before Jesus? How does that better explain how the New Testament writers might use it (especially v. 1 & 7) to describe Jesus?

Week 2: Proverbs & Psalms

Starting Date December 13

Application:

Response:

Week 2: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 13

Day 5 Highlight: Proverbs 20; Psalm 107

Explanation:

What sort of people does God save, and from what sort of situations does he save them from?

What is the connection between God's deliverance in vv. 4-32 and God's actions in vv. 33-43?

Week 2: Proverbs & Psalms
Starting Date December 13

Application:

Response:
