



FBC Reading Plan

October 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.

October's Memory Verse

14 And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all. 15 See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone. 16 Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing, 18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:14-18 (ESV)

14 And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone. 15 Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else.

16 Rejoice always, 17 pray continually, 18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:14-18 (NIV)

14 Brothers and sisters, we urge you to warn those who are lazy. Encourage those who are timid. Take tender care of those who are weak. Be patient with everyone.

15 See that no one pays back evil for evil, but always try to do good to each other and to all people.

16 Always be joyful. 17 Never stop praying. 18 Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:14-18 (NLT)

Week 1: Paul's Imprisonment

Starting Date October 4

Day 1

Highlight: Acts 20-21

Explanation:

In these chapters, Paul shows his commitment to go to Jerusalem. Why does he persist in going despite the warnings of other believers?

If Paul is prepared to be imprisoned and even die in Jerusalem (21:13), why does he try to appease the Jews who were upset with him (21:20-26)?

Week 1: Paul's Imprisonment

Starting Date October 4

Application:

Response:

Week 1: Paul's Imprisonment

Starting Date October 4

Day 2 Highlight: Acts 22-23

Explanation:

At what point does the crowd interrupt Paul's speech? How does this reveal what exactly made them so upset about Paul and his ministry?

There are many different political players in this section of Acts. But based on 23:11, who is ultimately in control? How does that inform how you interpret this section?

Week 1: Paul's Imprisonment

Starting Date October 4

Application:

Response:

Week 1: Paul's Imprisonment

Starting Date October 4

Day 3

Highlight: Acts 24-25

Explanation:

How do the political motives of the Jewish and Roman politicians affect Paul in these chapters?

Week 1: Paul's Imprisonment

Starting Date October 4

Application:

Response:

Week 1: Paul's Imprisonment

Starting Date October 4

Day 4

Highlight: Acts 26-27

Explanation:

What is the connection that Paul makes between his Jewish heritage and his beliefs and ministry as an apostle of Jesus?

Week 1: Paul's Imprisonment

Starting Date October 4

Application:

Response:

Week 1: Paul's Imprisonment

Starting Date October 4

Day 5

Highlight: Acts 28

Explanation:

The book of Acts ends rather abruptly. Why do you think this is? What does this chapter communicate as the final chapter of the book?

Week 1: Paul's Imprisonment

Starting Date October 4

Application:

Response:

Week 2: Colossians & Ephesians

Starting Date October 11

Day 1 Highlight: Colossians 1-2

Explanation:

What things does Paul pray for when he prays for the Colossian church?

Based on all of ch. 2, what sorts of things were threatening to “take captive” these Christians (2:8)?

Week 2: Colossians & Ephesians

Starting Date October 11

Application:

Response:

Week 2: Colossians & Ephesians

Starting Date October 11

Day 2

Highlight: Colossians 3-4

Explanation:

What is the connection between the believer and Jesus based on 3:1-17?

Week 2: Colossians & Ephesians

Starting Date October 11

Application:

Response:

Week 2: Colossians & Ephesians

Starting Date October 11

Day 3

Highlight: Ephesians 1-2

Explanation:

What has each of the three persons of the Trinity done for or in believers?

Week 2: Colossians & Ephesians

Starting Date October 11

Application:

Response:

Week 2: Colossians & Ephesians

Starting Date October 11

Day 4 Highlight: Ephesians 3-4

Explanation:

What did God call Paul to do?

How does the church grow into maturity?

Week 2: Colossians & Ephesians

Starting Date October 11

Application:

Response:

Week 2: Colossians & Ephesians

Starting Date October 11

Day 5 Highlight: Ephesians 5-6

Explanation:

The primary metaphor in chs. 4-5 is walking (4:1, 17; 5:2, 8, 15; translated by the NIV in some verses as “live”). What is the significance of this idea? Why is it important that Christians are carefully attentive to how they walk (5:15)?

Week 2: Colossians & Ephesians

Starting Date October 11

Application:

Response:

Week 3: Philippians & Hebrews

Starting Date October 18

Day 1

Highlight: Philippians 1-2

Explanation:

Paul wrote this letter from prison (1:7, 13). How does this context affect how you interpret the letter?

How should Christ's example give shape to Christians' lives?

Week 3: Philippians & Hebrews

Starting Date October 18

Application:

Response:

Week 3: Philippians & Hebrews

Starting Date October 18

Day 2 Highlight: Philippians 3-4

Explanation:

Summarize 3:2-14 in your own words using modern day examples of “reasons for confidence in the flesh” (3:4).

Week 3: Philippians & Hebrews

Starting Date October 18

Application:

Response:

Week 3: Philippians & Hebrews

Starting Date October 18

Day 3 Highlight: Hebrews 1-2

Explanation:

The author cites several psalms in chapter 1. What is the main point he is trying to make through these psalms?

What is the relation between the Son of God and the angels? What is the relation between the Son of God and humanity?

Week 3: Philippians & Hebrews

Starting Date October 18

Application:

Response:

Week 3: Philippians & Hebrews

Starting Date October 18

Day 4 Highlight: Hebrews 3-4

Explanation:

What is the difference between Jesus and Moses?

What does the Holy Spirit say in 3:7 and the verses that follow? How are we to be obedient to what he says?

Week 3: Philippians & Hebrews

Starting Date October 18

Application:

Response:

Week 3: Philippians & Hebrews

Starting Date October 18

Day 5 Highlight: Hebrews 5-6

Explanation:

What qualifies Jesus to be a high priest?

What is the author trying to encourage his listeners to do in 5:11-6:12?
How does he try to persuade them?

Week 3: Philippians & Hebrews

Starting Date October 18

Application:

Response:

Week 4: The Letter to the Hebrews

Starting Date October 25

Day 1

Highlight: Hebrews 7

Explanation:

This passage refers to Genesis 14:18-20, where Abraham meets King Melchizedek and gives a tenth of his spoils from war to him. What makes Jesus a priest in the order of Melchizedek? How does this make him better than the priests descended from Levi?

Week 4: The Letter to the Hebrews

Starting Date October 25

Application:

Response:

Week 4: The Letter to the Hebrews

Starting Date October 25

Day 2 Highlight: Hebrews 8-9

Explanation:

In 8:8-12, the author cites Jeremiah 31:31-34, where Jeremiah prophesies about a coming new covenant. The main point in chs. 8-9 is to show that this new covenant has been inaugurated through Jesus. How is the new covenant different from the Mosaic covenant?

What are the similarities and differences between the tabernacle made by Moses (and all the regulations that went with it) and the tabernacle not of this creation (v. 11) (and all that Jesus did there)?

Week 4: The Letter to the Hebrews

Starting Date October 25

Application:

Response:

Week 4: The Letter to the Hebrews

Starting Date October 25

Day 3

Highlight: Hebrews 10

Explanation:

8:1-10:18 form a continuous argument that shows Jesus has instituted the new covenant. How does this argument lead to or connect with what he writes in 10:19-39?

Week 4: The Letter to the Hebrews

Starting Date October 25

Application:

Response:

Week 4: The Letter to the Hebrews

Starting Date October 25

Day 4

Highlight: Hebrews 11

Explanation:

Ch. 11 functions to explain 10:39, that is, to show the great company of those who have had faith and so have preserved their lives, and thus encourages the audience to join that great group of people. What are some themes that are repeated in the lives of these powerful examples of faith?

Week 4: The Letter to the Hebrews

Starting Date October 25

Application:

Response:

Week 4: The Letter to the Hebrews

Starting Date October 25

Day 5

Highlight: Hebrews 12

Explanation:

How does looking to and considering Jesus help us to persevere in faithfulness?

This chapter evokes images from Exodus 19-20, which describes Israel coming to Mount Sinai after being delivered from Egypt. How does that situation compare to the situation of those under the new covenant?

Week 4: The Letter to the Hebrews

Starting Date October 25

Application:

Response:
