



# **FBC Reading Plan**

**July 2020**

**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.

## July's Memory Verses

46 “Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do what I tell you? 47 Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like: 48 he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. 49 But the one who hears and does not do them is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the stream broke against it, immediately it fell, and the ruin of that house was great.”

**Luke 6:46-49 (ESV)**

46 “Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say? 47 As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like. 48 They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. 49 But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete.”

**Luke 6:46-49 (NIV)**

46 “So why do you keep calling me ‘Lord, Lord!’ when you don’t do what I say? 47 I will show you what it’s like when someone comes to me, listens to my teaching, and then follows it. 48 It is like a person building a house who digs deep and lays the foundation on solid rock. When the floodwaters rise and break against that house, it stands firm because it is well built. 49 But anyone who hears and doesn’t obey is like a person who builds a house right on the ground, without a foundation. When the floods sweep down against that house, it will collapse into a heap of ruins.”

**Luke 6:46-49 (NLT)**

# Week 1: Letters to Timothy

Starting Date July 6th

**Day 1**

**Highlight:** 1 Timothy 1

*Memory Verse:* Luke 6:46

*Sunday's Message:* Romans 7:1-6

## **Explanation:**

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What seems to be the problem in Ephesus? Why does Paul want Timothy to stay there?

What does Paul's testimony and call to ministry reveal about God?

# **Week 1: Letters to Timothy**

**Starting Date July 6th**

## **Application:**

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Do you view the “sinners” in your life as those whom God may one day call into his family? If not, how should vv. 12-17 change that?

## **Response:**

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Are you aware of your sin and your utter need for God’s grace? Are you confident that God delights to save you, even though you are a sinner?

# Week 1: Letters to Timothy

Starting Date July 6th

**Day 2**

**Highlight:** 1 Timothy 2

*Memory Verse:* Luke 6:46

## **Explanation:**

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For what purpose should we pray for people in positions of power?

Based on these verses, what is the role of men and women in the church?

# **Week 1: Letters to Timothy**

**Starting Date July 6th**

## **Application:**

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Meditate on the truth that God “desire all people to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth.” How does he want to use you to accomplish that desire?

## **Response:**

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Pray for our country’s leaders that they may allow us to live peaceful, quiet, godly, and dignified lives.

# Week 1: Letters to Timothy

Starting Date July 6th

**Day 3**

**Highlight:** 1 Timothy 3

*Memory Verse:* Luke 6:46

## **Explanation:**

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Review the qualifications for overseers (i.e., elders) and deacons. Are there any that stand out to you? Why are these qualities important?



# **Week 1: Letters to Timothy**

**Starting Date July 6th**

## **Application:**

Elders and deacons should be men worthy of imitation. Therefore, the qualities here are qualities that all Christians in some sense should strive for. Based on these qualities, where does God want you to grow?

## **Response:**

Pray for God to give insight, wisdom, and humility to our elders and deacons. Pray that God would protect them from temptation. Pray also that God would continue to raise up more elders and deacons within our church body.

# Week 1: Letters to Timothy

Starting Date July 6th

**Day 4**

**Highlight:** 1 Timothy 4

*Memory Verse:* Luke 6:46

## **Explanation:**

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Why do some people depart from the faith? What do they end up believing? And how is this different from the “good doctrine” in vv. 6-16?

# **Week 1: Letters to Timothy**

**Starting Date July 6th**

## **Application:**

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Growth in godliness requires training. How have you seen that in your own life? Where do you need to train harder?

## **Response:**

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Growth in godliness also requires self-awareness and self-reflection (v. 16). Ask the Holy Spirit to help you watch yourself and reveal any ways in which you need to change.

# Week 1: Letters to Timothy

Starting Date July 6th

**Day 5**

**Highlight:** 1 Timothy 5

*Memory Verse:* Luke 6:46

## **Explanation:**

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Here we learn how the church ought to care for the widows, which were some of the most vulnerable people in society. Who is the group first responsible for caring for someone in need? At what point should the church step in?

Why are only some widows to be cared for by the church?

# **Week 1: Letters to Timothy**

**Starting Date July 6th**

## **Application:**

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Godly families are called to care for one another, and churches are called to care for the most needy within their congregation. How are you caring for others in these ways?

## **Response:**

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Pray for God to be at work in our church through caring for those in need. Pray that those who need help would be humble enough to ask. Pray that others would be prepared to sacrificially serve.

## Week 2: Letters to Timothy

Starting Date July 13th

**Day 1**

**Highlight:** 1 Timothy 6

*Memory Verse:* Luke 6:47

*Sunday's Message:* Romans 7:7-25

### **Explanation:**

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What are the characteristics of false teaching and false teachers? What are the qualities that belong to godliness?

## **Week 2: Letters to Timothy**

**Starting Date July 13th**

### **Application:**

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In what ways are you tempted by the love of money? Do you truly believe that such love leads only to pain and ultimately away from God?

### **Response:**

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How can you pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, and gentleness today?

## Week 2: Letters to Timothy

Starting Date July 13th

**Day 2**

**Highlight:** 2 Timothy 1

*Memory Verse:* Luke 6:47

### **Explanation:**

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Despite all the shame and difficulty Paul faced as an apostle, what gave him hope so that he could continue his service to God?



## **Week 2: Letters to Timothy**

**Starting Date July 13th**

### **Application:**

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No one is saved without also being called to a holy calling (v. 9). Why should you, if you are saved, also pursue a life of holiness?

### **Response:**

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Pray for yourself and others that you would not be ashamed of the gospel but be prepared to suffer for its sake (vv. 8-10).

## Week 2: Letters to Timothy

Starting Date July 13th

**Day 3**

**Highlight:** 2 Timothy 2

*Memory Verse:* Luke 6:47

### **Explanation:**

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Paul's gospel is "Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David" (v. 8). Why are these essential aspects of the gospel of Jesus Christ?

## **Week 2: Letters to Timothy**

### **Starting Date July 13th**

#### **Application:**

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Paul discipled Timothy, and Timothy was commanded to disciple other men, who would each disciple another group of men. How have you seen this pattern of discipleship play out in your life? Who has discipled you, and who are you discipling now?

#### **Response:**

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Are you doing your best to present yourself to God as one approved (v. 15)?

## Week 2: Letters to Timothy

Starting Date July 13th

**Day 4**

**Highlight:** 2 Timothy 3

*Memory Verse:* Luke 6:47

### **Explanation:**

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What is the connection between the characteristics of the world (vv. 1-9) and the necessity of suffering in a Christian's life (vv. 10-13)? That is, why does an evil world guarantee the persecution of the godly?

## **Week 2: Letters to Timothy**

**Starting Date July 13th**

### **Application:**

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All Scripture is breathed out by God and able to make you wise for salvation by pointing to Jesus Christ. Therefore, Scripture is the means by which we continue in what we have believed while living in a world that opposes what we believe. Are you confident in Scripture and your understanding of it such that you can withstand the opposition of our world?

### **Response:**

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Pray that God would cause you and our church to continue to grow in your understanding of Scripture to strengthen your faith and confidence in his truth.

## Week 2: Letters to Timothy

Starting Date July 13th

**Day 5**

**Highlight:** 2 Timothy 4

*Memory Verse:* Luke 6:47

### **Explanation:**

Based on what we read in chapter 3, why is preaching the word (v. 2) so essential to the life of a church? Describe what happens through preaching God's word.

## **Week 2: Letters to Timothy**

**Starting Date July 13th**

### **Application:**

How can Paul be so confident as he reflects on his life in vv. 6-8? What is the basis of your confidence?

### **Response:**

Pray for churches in the United States to preach God's Word truthfully and to not give in to the temptation to only say what people want to hear. Pray also for God to raise up people to plant more faithful, Bible-believing and Bible-preaching churches.

## Week 3: Titus & 1 Peter

Starting Date July 20th

**Day 1**

**Highlight:** Titus 1

*Memory Verse:* Luke 6:48

*Sunday's Message:* Romans 8:1-4

### **Explanation:**

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What sort of man should an elder be? How should his character and actions bless and protect the church?



## **Week 3: Titus & 1 Peter**

### **Starting Date July 20th**

#### **Application:**

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Consider the possibility of professing to know God but denying him by one's works. Is that a danger for you?

#### **Response:**

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Pray that our elders would be continually growing in godliness and have the courage to rebuke "empty talkers and deceives." Pray also that God would continue to raise up faithful men to lead our church.

## Week 3: Titus & 1 Peter

Starting Date July 20th

**Day 2**

**Highlight:** Titus 2

*Memory Verse:* Luke 6:48

### **Explanation:**

Titus is commanded to teach “sound doctrine,” and then vv. 2-10 describe this sound doctrine. What does “sound doctrine” mean in this passage?

## **Week 3: Titus & 1 Peter**

### **Starting Date July 20th**

#### **Application:**

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God's grace appeared not only to save us but to make us holy and godly, to both redeem us and cause us to be zealous for good works. How does experiencing the grace of God necessarily lead to a life that hates sin and loves godliness and does good works?

#### **Response:**

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Are you actively renouncing ungodliness and worldly passions? Are you living a self-controlled, upright, and godly life? Are you zealous for good works? If not, meditate on God's grace toward you in Jesus.

## Week 3: Titus & 1 Peter

Starting Date July 20th

**Day 3**

**Highlight:** Titus 3

*Memory Verse:* Luke 6:48

### **Explanation:**

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Why are all Christians commanded “to be ready for every good work” (v. 1)? Why are good works necessary in the life of a Christian (see also v. 8)?

## **Week 3: Titus & 1 Peter**

### **Starting Date July 20th**

#### **Application:**

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How should this passage influence how you disciple others? For example, when someone is dealing with sin in his or her life, how should you counsel him or her based on this passage?

#### **Response:**

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Ask God to remind you of your need for his grace, to empower you by his Holy Spirit, and to cause you to be ready for every good work.

## Week 3: Titus & 1 Peter

Starting Date July 20th

**Day 4**

**Highlight:** 1 Peter 1

*Memory Verse:* Luke 6:48

### **Explanation:**

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What are some of the incredible blessings offered to us in Jesus?

Why is striving for holiness so important for a Christian?

## **Week 3: Titus & 1 Peter**

### **Starting Date July 20th**

#### **Application:**

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Explain how a Christian can have joy in the midst of various trials.

#### **Response:**

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Are you conducting yourself in the fear of God throughout your time of exile (v. 17)?

## Week 3: Titus & 1 Peter

Starting Date July 20th

**Day 5**

**Highlight:** 1 Peter 2

*Memory Verse:* Luke 6:48

### **Explanation:**

Peter uses terminology used to describe Israel and now applies it to the church, which is God's people built upon the cornerstone, Jesus Christ. What does it mean to be part of God's people?



## **Week 3: Titus & 1 Peter**

### **Starting Date July 20th**

#### **Application:**

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How does Christ's example inform how we are called to live?

#### **Response:**

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Are you living in such a way that unbelievers can see your good deeds even if they speak evil against you for what you believe?

# Week 4: The Letters of Peter

Starting Date July 27th

**Day 1**

**Highlight:** 1 Peter 3

*Memory Verse:* Luke 6:49

*Sunday's Message:* Romans 8:5-11

## **Explanation:**

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What sort of beauty never fades?

How could a person suffer for righteousness' sake? Why, if you are doing good, would anyone be opposed to you?

## **Week 4: The Letters of Peter**

**Starting Date July 27th**

### **Application:**

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How do you become a person who does not repay evil for evil but blesses those who revile you?

### **Response:**

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Ask God to reveal any behavior in your life that may be putting Christ to shame.

# Week 4: The Letters of Peter

Starting Date July 27th

**Day 2**

**Highlight:** 1 Peter 4

*Memory Verse:* Luke 6:49

## **Explanation:**

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What is the connection between sin and suffering in this passage?

## **Week 4: The Letters of Peter**

### **Starting Date July 27th**

#### **Application:**

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Describe the different ways a Christian may suffer. How do you endure that suffering?

#### **Response:**

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To suffer is to be like Christ (v. 1, 13). Pray for yourself or for those whom you know are suffering and ask that you and they would be able to see suffering as participation with Christ.

# Week 4: The Letters of Peter

Starting Date July 27th

**Day 3**

**Highlight:** 1 Peter 5

*Memory Verse:* Luke 6:49

## **Explanation:**

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Based on the context, how does the devil devour people?

## **Week 4: The Letters of Peter**

**Starting Date July 27th**

### **Application:**

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How can you resist the devil today?

### **Response:**

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Speak freely with God about your concerns today.

# Week 4: The Letters of Peter

Starting Date July 27th

**Day 4**

**Highlight:** 2 Peter 1

*Memory Verse:* Luke 6:49

## **Explanation:**

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Define spiritual maturity based on this passage.



## **Week 4: The Letters of Peter**

**Starting Date July 27th**

### **Application:**

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We are to make every effort and to be diligent to grow in these qualities (v. 5, 10). In fact, even if we have them, we are to increase in them (v. 8). That is why Peter intends to always remind his people of these qualities even if they already know them. How are you striving to grow in these qualities?

### **Response:**

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Ask God to reveal where you need to grow and increase in the qualities listed here.

# Week 4: The Letters of Peter

Starting Date July 27th

**Day 5**

**Highlight:** 2 Peter 2

*Memory Verse:* Luke 6:49

## **Explanation:**

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Describe false teachers. Why are they so dangerous?

## **Week 4: The Letters of Peter**

### **Starting Date July 27th**

#### **Application:**

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What does God warn you about in this passage?

#### **Response:**

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False teachers are dangerous, blasphemous, arrogant, and foolish, and yet “many will follow their sensuality” (v. 2). Pray that God would protect you and the church from their destructiveness.