ENGAGE SCRIPTURE

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Admit it. Some of you hate reading the Bible. Just opening it makes you sleepy. You think it's hard to understand. You get lost in the Old Testament. It gives you a headache. Many Christians, regardless of educational background, avoid reading the Bible. Trying to understand, interpret, and apply this ancient text is a daunting task to many who open its pages. Yet it is an essential endeavor for a follower of Jesus.

The Journey invites you to join us as we engage with God by taking the Bible head-on, gleaning valuable insights from every book as we read through it in one year. Sound intimidating? It is. But if you really want to read the Bible strategically, with helpful resources and in community, this is probably the best shot you'll ever have.

Why read the Bible anyway?

The Bible is God's tangible way of directly communicating with us about who he is, what he values, who we are, why we exist... the list goes on and on. If we want to know anything about God, if we want to know God's thoughts about us, if we want to know our purpose in life and what will happen to us after death, we must go to the only source that deals authoritatively with these concerns.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 says, "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work." In other words, it is good for us to engage with God through reading the Bible. Needless to say, the Bible is something every one who follows Christ must get...in our hands, in our heads, and in our hearts.

How do I read the Bible?

The Bible is not primarily a moral guidebook. The Bible, simply stated, is the greatest story ever told because it is God's own story. Two guiding principles will help you as you endeavor to read God's word:

- 1. The Bible is not primarily about you. If the Bible is about us it becomes a crushing burden, a set of moral principles that we must, but cannot, follow. Rightly understood, The Bible is not a book of virtues; it is the story of how God is redeeming his people and all of creation through Jesus Christ. The Bible is not primarily about us. The Bible is all about Jesus.
- 2. The Bible is not about our search for God. It is a story about God's search for us. This story has four basic chapters: Creation, Fall, Redemption, Restoration — see next page.

GOD'S STORY

Creation

The story does not begin with a God in hiding. God initiates the story by creating all that exists, including his prized creation - human beings - whom he pursued in relationship. What God created in the beginning was not just good, but perfect, whole, complete, lacking in nothing. He designed the Earth as an ideal environment for his creation to flourish.

Fall

Unfortunately, the first human beings ultimately chose to meet their needs apart from their perfect Creator. Moment by moment, we face the disastrous consequences of our rebellion. Created to enjoy God in loving dependence on him, human beings now face God's wrath. Created to relate with God in healthy community, we now hide from him. Once connected intimately to the power source for life, we now face certain death in our fallen world.

Redemption

The longest chapter in the story of God is redemption—about how God began redeeming and restoring his prized creatures. This story includes ancient covenants, the 10 Commandments, David & Goliath, and much more. But it culminates in the character of Jesus. Jesus, God himself, demonstrated how God would rather experience the death we deserved than let go of his people. The redemption chapter is the climax of the story—God's relentless pursuit of his people at the expense of his own life.

Restoration

This chapter is still being written, though the previous chapter plays the spoiler and tells us how it all works out. The final chapter is basically this: what God has set in motion through the incarnation, crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus and through the gift of the Holy Spirit, will finally, one great day, be fully realized.

What resources are available to help me read the Bible?

To help you read the Bible in one year, you will receive a plan that breaks the readings into manageable pieces. You will also have access to videos, articles, and additional resources via a website specifically designed to help keep you on track and informed as you read. Additionally, social networking tools like Twitter and Facebook will also provide you with tips, links and encouragement to help you successfully read the Bible in a year. Go to www.journeyon.net to find these additional resources.

How do I engage beyond simply reading the Bible passages?

We recommend journaling as you read using what we call the ROAD method. Here's how it works. As you read, the Spirit will highlight a verse or phrase (or even one word). Reflect on this insight in the following way: Read, Observe, Apply, Depend. In addition to journaling, doing the plan with a group will allow you to engage with other people as you read through the Bible. Whether with your Community Group, your family, or an informal group of friends, working through the plan with other people will build accountability and allow you to share with others what God is teaching you in his Word.

THE ROAD JOURNAL METHOD

 \sim Read - Write down the main highlighted verse or portion of a verse.

- Observe Write down what you notice about the passage. You could even rewrite the passage in your own words, or ask questions aimed at getting at the meaning the author intended to convey.
 - **Apply** Describe what you will do with what God showed you.
- **Depend** Write out a prayer expressing your need for God's wisdom and help.

PLAN FEATURES

How to Approach this Bible Reading Plan

In this plan, each day of this year has been planned out so that at the end of the year, you will have read through the entire Bible. However, this Bible Reading Plan has some features that are unique to it and that can help you read through the Bible this year. Here are some of those features:

- Columns for Daily Reading: The plan will have you reading whole chapters in three different areas of the Bible each reading day; one New Testament passage and two Old Testament passages. If you are new to the Bible or do not feel up to reading the entire Bible this year, you can choose to read only one or two of the columns. It is a great goal to read through only the New Testament in a year.
- Days of Reflection/Catch Up: The plan is set up so that there are many days that do not have readings assigned to them. Because it is so easy to fall behind on daily reading, these days are meant to allow you space to catch up or take time to reflect on what God has been teaching you through his Word. Take advantage of them!

Monthly Scripture Snapshots:

Many who attempt to read through the Bible get stuck in some of the more difficult books to understand. This plan assists the reader by pulling these slower-paced books out of the daily reading plan, offering instead, videos from Pastor Darrin and additional resources to give a helpful overview of these books and place them into the larger context of Scripture.

January

Day	1	New Testament	Old Testament 1	Old Testament 2
1		Matthew 1	Psalms 1	Genesis 1
2		2	2	2
3		3	3	3
4			Day Off	
5		4	4	4
6		5	5	5
7		6	6	6
8			Day Off	
9		7	7	7
10		8	8	8
11			9	9
12		Day Off		
13		9	10	10
14		10	11	11
15		11	12	12
16			Day Off	
17		12	13	13
18		13	14	14
19		14	15	15
20			Day Off	
21		15	16	16
22		16	17	17
23			18	18
24			Day Off	
25		17	19	19
26		18	20	20
27		19	21	21
28			Day Off	
29		20	22	22
30		21	23	23
31		22	24	24
Scripture Snapshot: Leviticus				

February

Day 🗸	New Testament	Old Testament 1	Old Testament 2		
1		Day Off			
2	Matthew 23	Psalms 25	Genesis 25		
3	24	26	26		
4		27	27		
5		Day Off			
6	25	28	28		
7	26	29	29		
8	27	30	30		
9		Day Off			
10	28	31	31		
11	Mark 1	32	32		
12	2	33	33		
13		Day Off			
14	3	34	34		
15	4	35	35		
16		36	36		
17		Day Off			
18	5	37	37		
19	6	38	38		
20	7	39	39		
21		Day Off			
22	8	40	40		
23	9	41	41		
24	10	42	42		
25		Day Off			
26	11	43	43		
27	12	44	44		
28		45	45		
Scripture Snapshot: Numbers					

March

Day	1	New Testament	Old Testament 1	Old Testament 2	
1			Day Off		
2		Mark 13	Psalms 46	Genesis 46	
3		14	47	47	
4		15	48	48	
5			Day Off		
6		16	49	49	
7		Luke 1	50	50	
8		2	51	Exodus 1	
9			Day Off		
10		3	52	2	
11		4	53	3	
12			54	4	
13		Day Off			
14		5	55	5	
15		6	56	6	
16		7	57	7	
17			Day Off		
18		8	58	8	
19		9	59	9	
20		10	60	10	
21			Day Off		
22		11	61	11	
23		12	62	12	
24			63	13	
25			Day Off		
26		13	64	14	
27		14	65	15	
28		15	66	16	
29			Day Off		
30		16	67	17	
31		17	68	18	
Scri	Scripture Snapshot: Deuteronomy				

Day	1	New Testament	Old Testament 1	Old Testament 2
1		Luke 18	Psalms 69	Exodus 19
2			Day Off	
3		19	70	20
4		20	71	21
5		21	72	22
6			Day Off	
7		22	73	23
8		23	74	24
9		24	75	25
10			Day Off	
11		John 1	76	26
12		2	77	27
13		3	78	28
14		Day Off		
15		4	79	29
16		5	80	30
17		6	81	31
18			Day Off	
19		7	82	32
20		8	83	33
21			84	34
22			Day Off	
23		9	85	35
24		10	86	36
25		11	87	37
26			Day Off	
27		12	88	38
28		13	89	39
29		14	90	40
30	30 Day Off			
Scripture Snapshot: 1 Chronicles				

April

Day	1	New Testament	Old Testament 1	Old Testament 2
1		John 15	Psalms 91	Joshua 1-2
2		16	92	3
3			93	4
4			Day Off	
5		17	94	5
6		18	95	6
7		19	96	7
8			Day Off	
9		20	97	8
10		21	98	9
11		Acts 1	99	10
12		Day Off		
13		2	100	11
14		3	101	12
15			102	13
16			Day Off	
17		4	103	14
18		5	104	15
19		6	105	16
20			Day Off	
21		7	106	17
22		8	107	18
23		9	108	19
24			Day Off	
25		10	109	20
26		11	110	21
27			111	22
28			Day Off	
29		12	112	23
30		13	113	24
31		14	114	Judges 1
Scri	Scripture Snapshot: 2 Chronicles			

Day	1	New Testament	Old Testament 1	Old Testament 2	
1			Day Off		
2		Acts 15	Psalms 115	Judges 2	
3		16	116	3	
4		17	117	4	
5			Day Off		
6		18	118	5	
7		19	119	6	
8			120	7	
9			Day Off		
10		20	121	8	
11		21	122	9	
12		22	123	10	
13		Day Off			
14		23	124	11	
15		24	125	12	
16		25	126	13	
17			Day Off		
18		26	127	14	
19		27	128	15	
20			129	16	
21			Day Off		
22		28	130	17	
23		Romans 1	131	18	
24		2	132	19	
25			Day Off		
26		3	133	20	
27		4	134	21	
28		5	135	Ruth 1-2	
29			Day Off		
30		6	136	3	
Scripture Snapshot: Job					

June

July

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Day	1	New Testament	Old Testament 1	Old Testament 2
1		Romans 7	Psalms 137	Ruth 4
2		8	138	1 Samuel 1
3			Day Off	
4		9	139	2
5		10	140	3
6		11	141	4
7			Day Off	
8		12	142	5
9		13	143	6
10		14	144	7
11			Day Off	
12		15	145	8
13		16	146	9
14		1 Cor. 1	147	10
15			Day Off	
16		2	148	11
17		3	149	12
18		4	150	13
19			Day Off	
20		5	Proverbs 1	14
21		6	2	15
22		7	3	16
23			Day Off	
24		8	4	17
25		9	5	18
26		10	6	19
27			Day Off	
28		11	7	20
29		12	8	21
30		13	9	22
31			Day Off	
Scripture Snapshot: Isaiah 1-39				

August

Day	<i>✓</i>	New Testament	Old Testament 1	Old Testament 2
1		1 Cor. 14	Proverbs 10	1 Samuel 23
2		15	11	24
3		16	12	25
4			Day Off	
5		2 Cor. 1	13	26
6		2	14	27
7		3	15	28
8			Day Off	
9		4	16	29
10		5	17	30
11		6	18	31
12		Day Off		
13		7	19	2 Samuel 1
14		8	20	2
15		9	21	3
16			Day Off	
17		10	22	4
18		11	23	5
19		12	24	6
20			Day Off	
21		13	25	7
22		Galatians 1	26	8
23		2	27	9
24			Day Off	
25		3	28	10
26		4	29	11
27		5	30	12
28			Day Off	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
29		6	31	13
30		Ephesians 1	Eccles. 1	14
31		2	2	15
Scripture Snapshot: Isaiah 40-66				

September

Day	1	New Testament	Old Testament 1	Old Testament 2
1			Day Off	
2		Ephesians 3	Eccles. 3	2 Samuel 16
3		4	4	17
4		5	5	18
5			Day Off	
6		6	6	19
7		Philippians 1	7	20
8		2	8	21
9			Day Off	
10		3	9	22
11		4	10	23
12		Colossians 1	11	24
13		Day Off		
14		2	12	1 Kings 1-2
15		3	Song Sol. 1	3
16		4	2	4
17			Day Off	
18		1 Thess. 1	3	5
19		2	4	6
20		3	5	7
21			Day Off	
22		4	6	8
23		5	7	9
24		2 Thess. 1	8	10
25			Day Off	
26		2	Daniel 1	11
27		3	2	12
28		1 Timothy 1	3	13
29		Day Off		
30		2	4	14
Script	Scripture Snapshot: Jeremiah 1-29			

October

Day	1	New Testament	Old Testament 1	Old Testament 2
1		1 Timothy 3	Daniel 5	1 Kings 15
2		4	6	16
3			Day Off	
4		5	7	17
5		6	8	18
6		2 Timothy 1	9	19
7			Day Off	
8		2	10	20
9		3	11	21
10		4	12	22
11		Day Off		
12		Titus 1	Hosea 1	2 Kings 1-2
13		2	2	3
14		3	3	4
15		Day Off		
16		Philemon 1	4	5
17		Hebrews 1	5	6
18		2	6	7
19			Day Off	
20		3	7	8
21		4	8	9
22		5	9	10
23			Day Off	
24		6	10	11
25		7	11	12
26		8	12	13
27			Day Off	
28		9	13	14
29		10	14	15
30		11	Joel 1	16
31				
Scri	Scripture Snapshot: Jeremiah 30-52			

November

Day	1	New Testament	Old Testament 1	Old Testament 2
1		Hebrews 12	Joel 2	2 Kings 17
2		13	3	18
3		James 1	Amos 1	19
4			Day Off	1
5		2	2	20
6		3	3	21
7		4	4	22
8			Day Off	
9		5	5	23
10		1 Peter 1	6	24
11		2	7	25
12		Day Off		
13		3	8	Ezra 1-2
14		4	9	3
15		5	Obadiah 1	4
16			Day Off	
17		2 Peter 1	Jonah 1-2	5
18		2	3-4	6
19		3	Micah 1	7
20			Day Off	
21		1 John 1	2	8
22		2	3	9
23		3	4	10
24			Day Off	
25		4	5	Nehemiah 1
26		5	6	2
27		2 John 1	7	3
28			Day Off	
29		3 John 1	Nahum 1	4
30		Jude 1	2	5
Scri	Scripture Snapshot: Ezekiel 1-24			

December

Day	1	New Testament	Old Testament 1	Old Testament 2
1		Revelation 1	Nahum 3	Nehemiah 6
2			Day Off	
3		2	Habakkuk 1	7
4		3	2	8
5		4	3	9
6			Day Off	
7		5	Zephaniah 1	10
8		6	2	11
9		7	3	12
10			Day Off	·
11		8	Haggai 1-2	13
12		9	Zechar. 1-2	Esther 1
13		10	3-4	2
14		Day Off		
15		11	5	3
16		12	6	4
17		13	7	5
18			Day Off	
19		14	8	6
20		15	9	7
21		16	10	8
22			Day Off	
23		17	11	9
24		18	12	10
25		19	13	Lamen. 1
26			Day Off	
27		20	14	2
28		21	Malachi 1-2	3
29		22	3	4
30			4	5
31	31 Day Off			
Scri	Scripture Snapshot: Ezekiel 25-48			



