

BIBLE READING HELPS FOR MAY 2020

Anchored IN THE WORD

ADULTERY IN THE HEART

²⁷"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.'^a But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has committed adultery with her already in his heart. ²⁸Your right eye causes you to see. If you pluck it out and cast it from you, your right eye will remain pure. ²⁹It is better for you that one of your eyes be plucked out than for your whole body to be cast into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand is defiled, cut it off, and it will remain pure. ³¹It is better for you that one of your hands be cut off than for your whole body to be cast into hell.

MARRIAGE

³²"Furthermore, if your brother or sister is defiled, and you are bound to her or to him, and she or he commits adultery, you are defiled. Whoever marries after this commandment, he commits adultery, both he and his partner. ³³But if your brother or sister is defiled, and you are bound to her or to him, and she or he commits adultery, you are defiled. Whoever marries after this commandment, he commits adultery, both he and his partner.

CHRIST FULFILLS THE LAW

¹⁷"Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. ¹⁸For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass away from the law till all is fulfilled. ¹⁹Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.



Reading the Word Together

Following the plan provided in the *Anchored in the Word* booklets will allow you to read through the entire Bible in 2020. Since you'll be reading along with others in our church, it will be easier to discuss what you are reading with other believers. Sharing your insights and questions will greatly encourage others to dive into God's life-giving Word.

Here's what you will find inside:

- A weekly section to keep track of your Bible reading, record insights, and review the weekly memory verse.
- Introductions to each Biblical book that will be read during the month.
- A brief overview of how to do more in-depth Bible study.
- A listing of church events for the month.
- Blank note pages to record key blessings & lessons

Nothing will impact your life like consistently reading and reflecting on God's Word. You will grow in your knowledge of God and His ways. You will find strength and insight for each day. There is abundant hope and help in God's Word for you!

"Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night."

Psalm 1:1-2 (NKJV)

Introduction to Chronicles

First and Second Chronicles, originally one book, was written sometime after Judah began to return from the Babylonian exile in 538 B.C. and focuses primarily on the history of Judah.

First Chronicles begins with several genealogies, with special emphasis on David and Solomon. The "chronicler" moves next to the history of the kingdom under David, stressing David's interest in worship and his detailed plans for the construction of the temple-which would be built by his son Solomon.

Second Chronicles recalls the greatness of Solomon's reign; however, most of the book focuses on Judah's fall into sin which led to the exile. Judah had several godly kings, especially Hezekiah and Josiah, but it still declined into sin. Yet God remained faithful to his covenant people, and as the book closes it jumps ahead several years, recording the decree of Cyrus that allowed the Jewish exiles to return to their Promised Land.

Scan the QR code on the right with your smartphone's camera app to [watch a video](#) overview of this book compliments of The Bible Project on YouTube.



Introduction to Ezra

The book of Ezra begins where 2 Chronicles ends. As prophesied by Isaiah (Isa. 44:28), the Persian King Cyrus sent exiles back to Jerusalem in 538 B.C. led by Zerubbabel. Despite opposition from the non-Jewish inhabitants of Judea, and after encouragement by the prophets Haggai and Zechariah, the

temple was rebuilt. Then in 458, Ezra led the second of three waves of returning exiles. By the time Ezra arrived, the people had again fallen into sin. Ezra preached God's word and the people repented (10:9-17). Ezra succeeded because God's hand was upon him (7:6, 9, 28; 8:18, 22, 31). This book, shows God's power in covenant faithfulness, moving even pagan kings to accomplish his redemptive purposes.

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Introduction to Nehemiah

In 445 B.C., the Persian King Artaxerxes sent Nehemiah, an Israelite who was a trusted official, to help rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. Along with Nehemiah came the third wave of returning Jewish exiles. Despite tense opposition and disunity, Nehemiah rebuilt the walls. He took wise defensive measures and set a personal example of courage. Nehemiah did what God had put into his heart (2:12; 7:5) and found that the joy of the Lord was his strength (8:10). When the people began once again to fall into sin, Nehemiah had Ezra read to them from the Law.

Scan the QR code on the right with your smartphone's camera app to [watch a video](#) overview of this book compliments of The Bible Project on YouTube.



Week Eighteen

Reading Schedule

✓	Date	Day	Text
	5/3	Sunday	2 Kings 5-7
	5/4	Monday	2 Kings 8-9
	5/5	Tuesday	2 Kings 10-12
	5/6	Wednesday	2 Kings 13-14
	5/7	Thursday	2 Kings 15-16
	5/8	Friday	2 Kings 17-18
	5/9	Saturday	2 Kings 19-20

Memory Verse

“So, God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”

Genesis 1:27

Discovery Questions

Who did God use to resupply Samaria with food during siege?

How did Jehu identify the Baal worshippers?

Who was the last king of Israel (northern tribes)?

Week Nineteen

Reading Schedule

✓	Date	Day	Text
	5/10	Sunday	2 Kings 21-25
	5/11	Monday	1 Chronicles 1
	5/12	Tuesday	1 Chronicles 2-4
	5/13	Wednesday	1 Chronicles 5-6
	5/14	Thursday	1 Chronicles 7-9
	5/15	Friday	1 Chronicles 10-12
	5/16	Saturday	1 Chronicles 13-16

Memory Verse

“That you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.”
Ephesians 4:22-24

Discovery Questions

From which son of Noah was Abraham a descendent?

Why did David pour out the water that was retrieved for him from the well of Bethlehem?

In 1st Chronicles 14, What sound was David listening for to know when God was signaling him to start his attack on the Philistines?

Week Twenty

Reading Schedule

✓	Date	Day	Text
	5/17	Sunday	1 Chronicles 17-19
	5/18	Monday	1 Chronicles 20-23
	5/19	Tuesday	1 Chronicles 24-26
	5/20	Wednesday	1 Chronicles 27-29
	5/21	Thursday	2 Chronicles 1-4
	5/22	Friday	2 Chronicles 5-7
	5/23	Saturday	2 Chronicles 8-10

Memory Verse

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.”

Romans 12:1

Discovery Questions

What structure was built on the site of Ornan’s threshing floor?

What was wrong with David numbering the Israelites?

What did Solomon do with the pagan remnant in the land?

Week Twenty-One

Reading Schedule

✓	Date	Day	Text
	5/24	Sunday	2 Chronicles 11-14
	5/25	Monday	2 Chronicles 15-18
	5/26	Tuesday	2 Chronicles 19-22
	5/27	Wednesday	2 Chronicles 23-25
	5/28	Thursday	2 Chronicles 26-28
	5/29	Friday	2 Chronicles 29-30
	5/30	Saturday	2 Chronicles 31-33

Memory Verse

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

Romans 12:2

Discovery Questions

What battle plan did Jahaziel give to Judah in 2nd Chronicles 20?

What was the first thing Hezekiah did during his reign as king?

What happened to Manasseh that caused him to repent?

Week Twenty-Two

Reading Schedule

✓	Date	Day	Text
	5/31	Sunday	2 Chronicles 34-35
	6/1	Monday	2 Chronicles 36-Ezra 2
	6/2	Tuesday	Ezra 3-5
	6/3	Wednesday	Ezra 6-8
	6/4	Thursday	Ezra 9-10
	6/5	Friday	Nehemiah 1-3
	6/6	Saturday	Nehemiah 4-6

Memory Verse

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

Mark 10:45

Discovery Questions

How did Hilkiyah find the lost book of the law?

Why did Ezra not want to ask King Artaxerxes for an armed escort?

Which Jerusalem leader repaired his section of the wall with the help of his daughters?

Appendix A - The Inductive Study Method

Observation – What do I see?

Start by reading the passage once through to get the big picture. Then read it again slower: noticing punctuation, identifying grammar, and observing how thoughts connect. Let the scene develop in your mind.

Now, “zoom out” in stages to get the **context**

- Immediate context – What is going on?
- Surrounding context – What happened before and after?
- Larger context – What is this book all about?

Next, consider how the **literary style** might be contributing

- Historical narrative – Factual retellings of events
- Law – God’s commands to His covenant people
- Poetry – Scripture written in verse
- Wisdom – Principles from generations of godly people
- Prophecy – Revelation from God about the future
- Argument – Ideas built upon each other to make a whole

Finally, “**interview**” the passage with these questions:

- Who? – What is significant to know about each person?
- What? – What is happening? What is being said or done?
- Where? – Lookup every location you encounter!
- When? – When did this occur? In other Scripture?
- Why? – Look for reasons and explanations. Connect them!
- How? – Are methods described or instructions given?

Interpretation – What does it mean?

When interpreting Scripture, always keep in mind that “meaning” is not our subjective thoughts read into the text, but God’s objective truth read out of the text. Using the analogy of a puzzle, try applying the “four C’s” of accurate interpretation:

- *Content* – Do I have all the pieces? Observation is critical
- *Context* – Where does this piece belong in the big picture?
- Literary context – what type of literature is this?
- Historical context – what events surround this text?
- Cultural context – what were the “norms” then?
- Geographic context – does location matter?
- Theological context – what did they know of God?
- *Comparison* – Where does this piece fit with the others?
- The greatest interpreter of Scripture is Scripture
- *Consultation* – Does this piece really fit here?
- Commentaries are great consultation resources

And never forget the golden rule of interpretation:

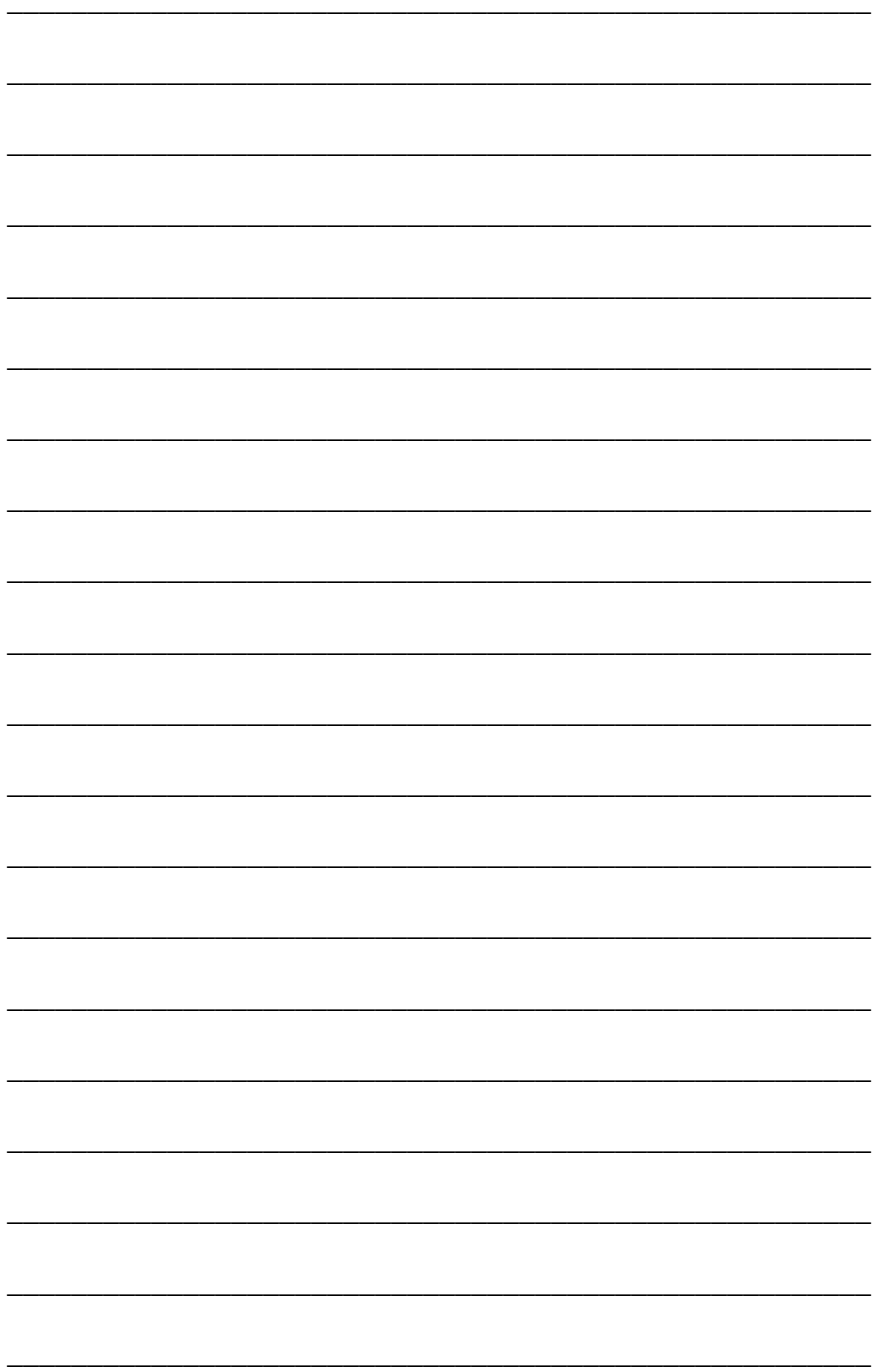
“When the plain sense of Scripture makes common sense, seek no other sense...or it will be nonsense.”

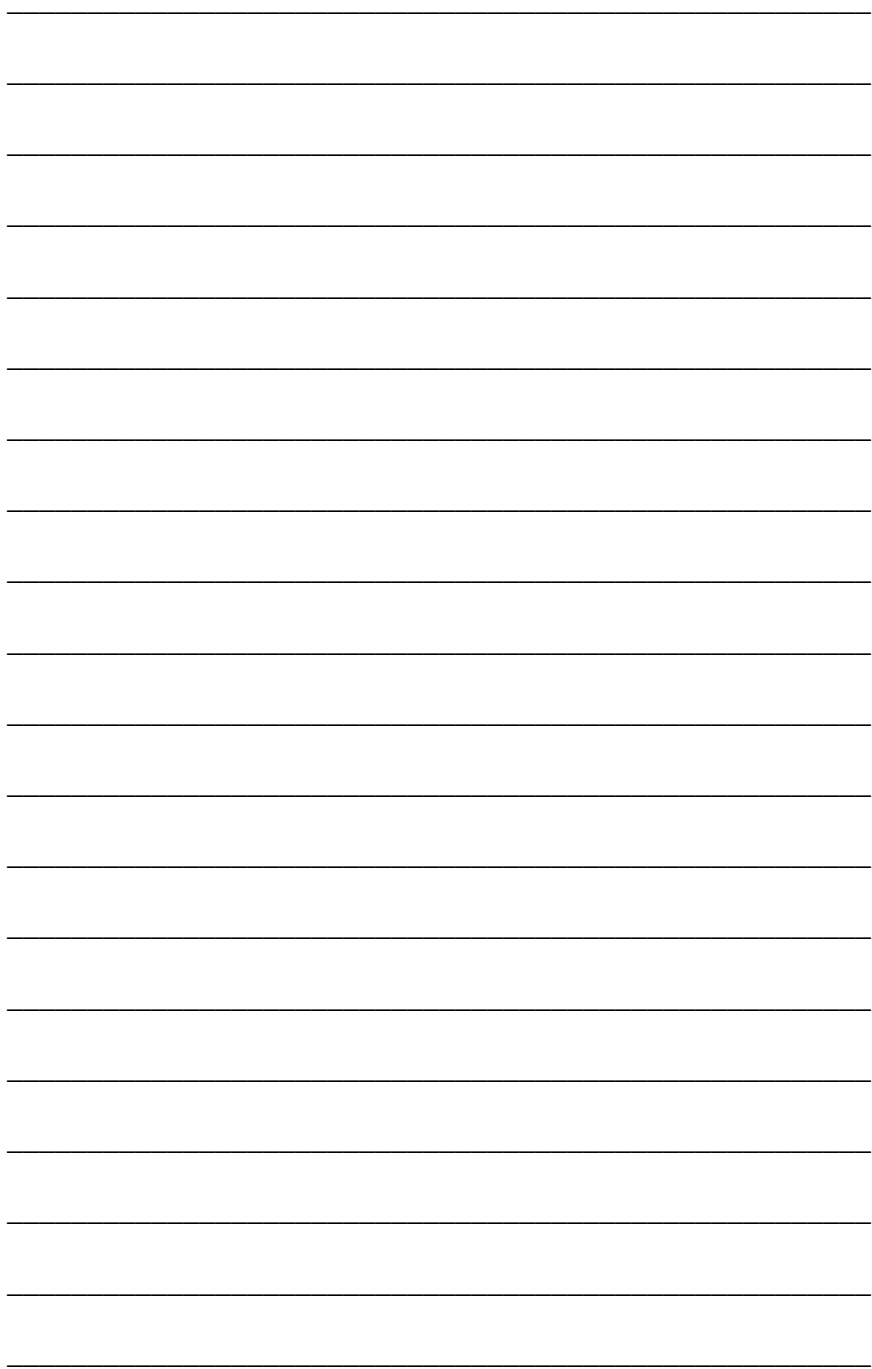
Application – How does it affect me?

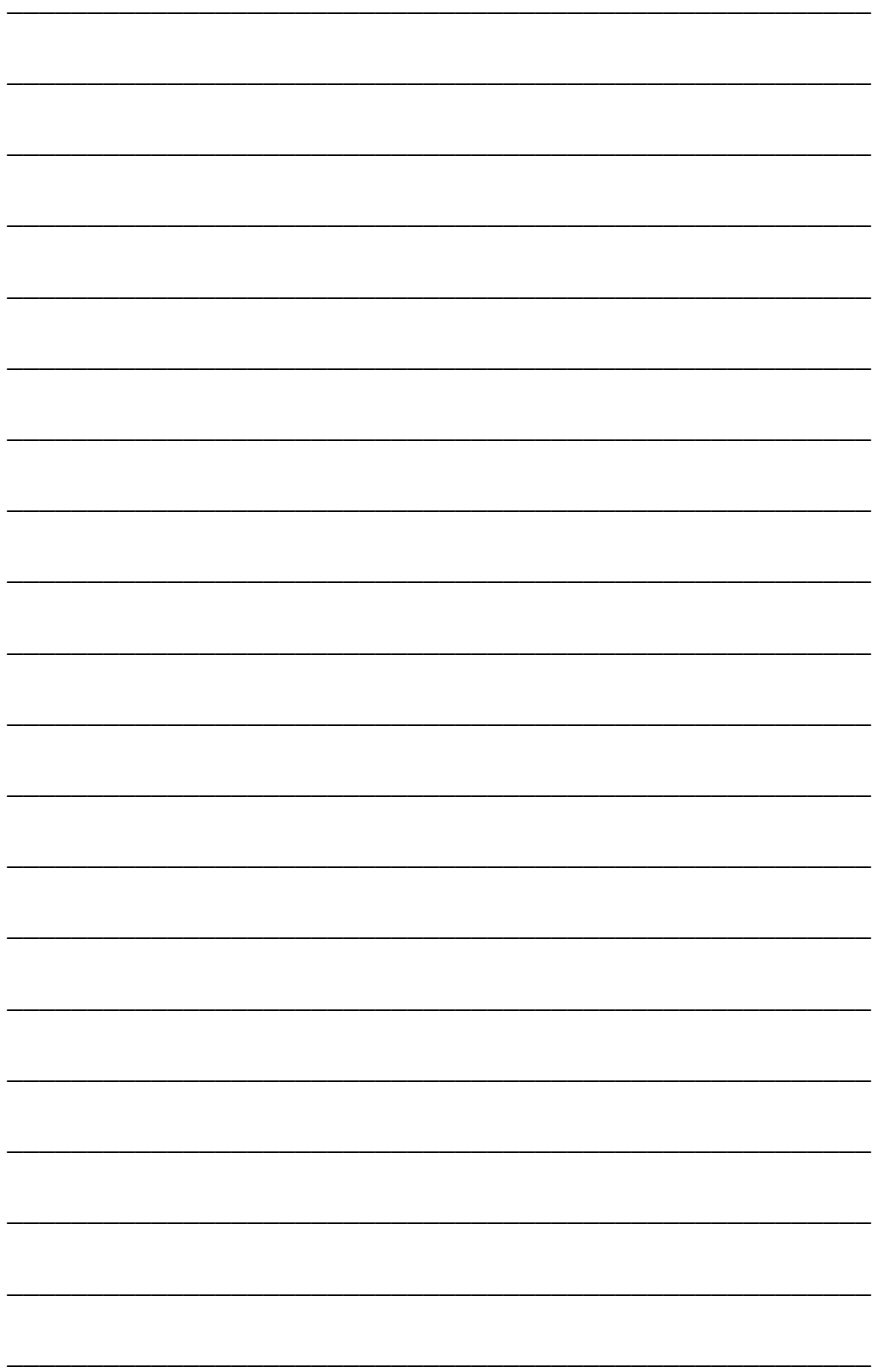
To find out how the principles you’ve discovered might apply to you, it helps to restate them as a question to yourself like this:

“How does that fact that [...principle from the Bible...] affect me?”

Then ask yourself what action you should take based on what you now know. Seek God’s will in prayer for this. Permit the Holy Spirit to answer these questions for you and open your eyes to God’s perspective.







Events in May

No meetings are currently Scheduled for May due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Check our church's website for updates.

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