

BIBLE READING HELPS FOR NOVEMBER 2020



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 is what you will find inside:

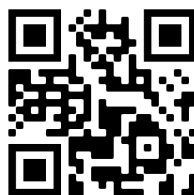
- A weekly section to keep track of your Bible reading, record insights, and review the weekly memory verse.
- Introductions to each Biblical book that will be read during the month.
- A brief overview of how to do more in-depth Bible study.
- A listing of church events for the month.
- Blank note pages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



The Gospel of John was written to persuade people to believe in Jesus. The opening verses declare that Jesus is God, stressing his unique relationship with God the Father. The book focuses on seven of Jesus' signs (miracles), to show his divinity. Jesus called people to believe in him, promising eternal life. He proved he could give life by raising Lazarus and by his own death and resurrection. John features Christ's seven "I am" statements, his encounters with Nicodemus and the Samaritan woman, his Upper Room teachings and washing of the disciples' feet, and his high priestly prayer. It includes the most well-known summary of the gospel. The author was probably the apostle John, writing about AD 85

Introduction to Acts



Acts picks up where Luke's Gospel leaves off, recording the early progress of the gospel as Jesus' disciples took it from Jerusalem throughout Judea, Samaria, and the rest of the Mediterranean world. The story begins with Christ's ascension and the events of Pentecost. As Gentiles begin responding to the gospel, the focus shifts to Paul and his missionary journeys. Acts forms a bridge between the four Gospels and the rest of the New Testament, showing how the apostles carried on Christ's work and providing a historical background for Romans through Revelation. The Acts of the Apostles is the second of two New Testament books written by Luke. Like his Gospel, Acts was a letter to Luke's friend Theophilus, written sometime in AD 62-64.

Introduction to Romans



Romans is the longest and most systematically reasoned of Paul's letters. It is stated in Romans 1:16-17; the gospel is God's power for salvation, because it shows us that the righteousness of God is through faith for all who believe. Paul explains the need for justification through faith because of sin. He then spells out the results of justification by faith in terms of both present experience and future hope. In the next three chapters, he expresses his sorrow that many of his fellow Israelites have not embraced the gospel, and he wrestles with the theological implications of this. He concludes by describing how the gospel should affect one's everyday life. Paul wrote his letter to Rome in about AD 57.

Introduction to 1st Corinthians



The city of Corinth was at the heart of an important trade route in the ancient world. Like many cities that thrive on trade, Corinth had a reputation for sexual immorality, religious diversity, and corruption. The church that Paul planted there floundered under all of these influences and began to divide over various issues. This book addresses many practical questions dividing the church, such as spiritual gifts, marriage, food offered to idols, and the resurrection. Paul ultimately urged the Corinthians to be unified and to give themselves fully to "the work of the Lord".

Week Forty-Four

Reading Schedule

✓	Date	Day	Text
	11/1	Sunday	Luke 14-16
	11/2	Monday	Luke 17-18
	11/3	Tuesday	Luke 19-20
	11/4	Wednesday	Luke 21-22
	11/5	Thursday	Luke 23-24
	11/6	Friday	John 1-3
	11/7	Saturday	John 4-5

Memory Verse

Then He said to them all, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it.”

Luke 9:23–24

Discovery Questions

What was another name for the Passover?

Who went first to the tomb to see whether or not Christ in fact rose from the dead?

[illegible]

Week Forty-Five

Reading Schedule

✓	Date	Day	Text
	11/8	Sunday	John 6-7
	11/9	Monday	John 8-9
	11/10	Tuesday	John 10-11
	11/11	Wednesday	John 12-13
	11/12	Thursday	John 14-16
	11/13	Friday	John 17-18
	11/14	Saturday	John 19-21

Memory Verse

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them.

Romans 1:18–19

Discovery Questions

In John chapter 7, one of the Pharisees attempted to defend Jesus. Who was that Pharisee?

According to John 16:23, what reason does Jesus give for us to have peace when facing difficulties?

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Week Forty-Six

Reading Schedule

✓	Date	Day	Text
	11/15	Sunday	Acts 1-3
	11/16	Monday	Acts 4-6
	11/17	Tuesday	Acts 7-8
	11/18	Wednesday	Acts 9-10
	11/19	Thursday	Acts 11-13
	11/20	Friday	Acts 14-16
	11/21	Saturday	Acts 17-18

Memory Verse

Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.

Galatians 6:7

Discovery Questions

What circumstance arose in the early church that made the Apostles realize that they needed help?

When Paul and Barnabas left on their first missionary journey, John Mark was their helper. What is the first mention of John Mark?

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Week Forty-Seven

Reading Schedule

✓	Date	Day	Text
	11/22	Sunday	Acts 19-20
	11/23	Monday	Acts 21-22
	11/24	Tuesday	Acts 23-25
	11/25	Wednesday	Acts 26-28
	11/26	Thursday	Romans 1-3
	11/27	Friday	Romans 4-7
	11/28	Saturday	Romans 8-10

Memory Verse

Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You. My flesh and my heart fail; But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Psalm 73:25–26

Discovery Questions

What did James and the elders at Jerusalem recommend to Paul to try to counteract rumors that he was teaching Jews to disregard Jewish customs?

What happened on the island of Melina to cause the people there to assume that Paul was a god?

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Week Forty-Eight

Reading Schedule

✓	Date	Day	Text
	11/29	Sunday	Romans 11-14
	11/30	Monday	Romans 15-16
	12/1	Tuesday	1 Corinthians 1-4
	12/2	Wednesday	1 Corinthians 5-8
	12/3	Thursday	1 Corinthians 9-11
	12/4	Friday	1 Corinthians 12-14
	12/5	Saturday	1 Corinthians 15-16

Memory Verse

Therefore take heed how you hear. For whoever has, to him more will be given; and whoever does not have, even what he seems to have will be taken from him.

Luke 8:18

Discovery Questions

According to Romans 15:1, what is the responsibility of the stronger Christian toward the weaker?

When discussing the variety of spiritual gifts in the church in 1 Corinthians 14, Paul reminded them of one overriding principle to focus on. What is that principle?

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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.

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[illegible]

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Events in November

Seedline Bible Project	Fri, 11/6 – Sun, 11/8
Faithful Men Book Study	Saturday the 14 th @ 6 PM
Members Meeting	Sunday the 15 th @ 6 PM
Thanksgiving Testimony Service	Sunday the 22 nd @ 5 PM

Weekly Gatherings

Sunday Worship Service	Sundays @ 10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Service	Sundays @ 5:00 PM
West Covina Fellowship Group*	Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM
Covina Fellowship Group*	Wednesdays @ 7:00 PM

**Meeting locations and times subject to change. Please see a pastor for information and to enroll.*

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