

# ANCHORED

*in the Word*

June 2023

# About Anchored in the Word

*Anchored in the Word* is a resource to help you read the Bible more consistently and fruitfully. Following this guide will lead you to read thoughtfully through the entire New Testament over the year. You can do this by reading five days per week. If you want to read the whole Bible, appropriate passages from Old Testament are listed.

The guide is organized by week. Each week includes:

- A key verse taken from the week's reading. This is for you to meditate on and try to memorize.
- A brief introduction to the content of the week's reading.
- A space for notes for the week – you might use it for prayer requests, key lessons from the week, key ideas from Sunday's sermon, etc.

Then you will find a page for each day with the passage to read along with three questions. The passages are divided into roughly equal sections. Sometimes you will only read part of a chapter, or you might read parts of two chapters. Our goal was to make each reading about the same length, but make sure we ended at the end of a story or key idea.

Don't let the questions overwhelm you, they are just tools to help you. There are two main goals for the questions: (1) to stimulate our thinking, and (2) to help us discuss what we read together.

Remember to pray before, during and in response to reading. May God bless you as you read His Word!

All quotations are the from the Legacy Standard Bible (LSB) which you can read online at [read.lsbible.org](http://read.lsbible.org) or in many Bible apps.

# Week 22 (May 29-June 4)

VERSE OF THE WEEK

*And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who have been sanctified. (Acts 20:32)*

This week's reading continues Paul's second missionary journey. Paul and Silas free a slave girl from demonic possession in Philippi, leading to their imprisonment but resulting in the conversion of the jailer and his family. They face opposition and acceptance as they preach in Thessalonica, Berea, and Athens, where Paul engages with philosophers and intellectuals. Paul establishes a thriving church in Corinth and spends two influential years in Ephesus, performing miracles, confronting idolatry, and causing a decline in the worship of Artemis/Diana. He continues his journey, encouraging believers in Macedonia and Greece, meeting with elders in Ephesus to give a powerful farewell. These chapters showcase the power of the gospel, the perseverance of early believers amidst persecution, and the guidance and empowerment of the Holy Spirit in expanding the church.

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## **Week 22 / Day 1**

☐ Acts 16:16-40

How did Luke describe the slave girl?

How might Paul have been helping the cause of the Philippian church when he asserted his rights as a Roman citizen?

What hymns and spiritual songs bring you joy?

*OT Readings for the day: 1 Chronicles 22-25; Psalm 78*

## **Week 22 / Day 2**

Acts 17

On arriving in Berea, where did Paul and Silas go? Why?

How should all Christians interact with what they are taught about the Bible?

What did Paul emphasize about God that was different from what the Stoics and Epicureans believed?

*OT Readings for the day: 1 Kings 1; 1 Chronicles 26-28*

## **Week 22 / Day 3**

Acts 18

What did Paul spend his time doing when Silas and Timothy arrived? Why?

What encouraging encounters and experiences did Paul have while in Corinth?

What approach did Apollos use in defending the Christian faith?

*OT Readings for the day: 1 Kings 2; 1 Chronicles 29*

## **Week 22 / Day 4**

Acts 19

How long did Paul speak at the synagogue before confronting trouble?

What battles might Paul fight if he were a missionary to your community?

What underlying motive did the silversmith have for his protest?

*OT Readings for the day: 1 Kings 3; 2 Chronicles 1; Psalm 42*

## **Week 22 / Day 5**

Acts 20

When did the Christians meet to break bread? What time of the day?

What are some steps you can take to be alert and thoughtful during sermons?

What were the future responsibilities of the Ephesian elders?

*OT Readings for the day: 1 Kings 4; Proverbs 1-2; Psalm 43*





## **Week 23 / Day 1**

☐ Acts 21:1-25

What warning did Paul ignore? Why?

How can we build our courage when we are afraid to do what God wants?

When is it wrong to do something in order to avoid offending someone?

*OT Readings for the day: Proverbs 3-5*

## **Week 23 / Day 2**

□ Acts 21:26–22:21

Why were the Jews from Asia so angry at Paul?

Why do you think Paul told his own story instead of preaching a sermon?

What are some things you can do to build credibility with your friends and coworkers for the sake of the gospel?

*OT Reading for the day: Proverbs 6-7; Psalm 7*

## Week 23 / Day 3

□ Acts 22:22–23:10

Drawing ideas from Paul's example, what do you want to remember the next time you have to deal with a difficult person?

Which statement of Paul do you think showed the most boldness?

How was Paul comforted and encouraged?

*OT Reading for the day: Proverbs 8-10; Psalm 144*

## **Week 23 / Day 4**

□ Acts 23:11–35

Who all was involved in the plot against Paul?

How did Paul's family help him?

What "human means" does God use to protect His people?

*OT Readings for the day: Proverbs 11-13; Psalm 8*

## **Week 23 / Day 5**

Acts 24

Speaking in his own defense, how was Paul's introduction different from the lawyer's?

What did Paul say about the charges brought against him?

In what way is the gospel difficult to accept?

*OT Readings for the day: Proverbs 14-15*

# Week 24 (June 12-18)

## VERSE OF THE WEEK

*Therefore, be cheerful, men, for I believe God that it will turn out exactly as I have been told. (Acts 27:25)*

Festus considers sending Paul back to Jerusalem, but Paul exercises his rights as a Roman citizen and appeals to Caesar. Festus keeps Paul in custody and invites King Agrippa to hear his case. Paul seizes the opportunity to share the gospel with Agrippa, affirming God's power over life and history, offering salvation through Jesus as the risen Christ. Agrippa declines the gospel but acknowledges that Paul could have been set free. Paul, along with other prisoners, is sent to Rome but faces a fierce storm, ultimately crash-landing on an unfamiliar island. Throughout the ordeal, God demonstrates His sovereignty over nature and His protection of Paul. On the island, Paul performs miracles. After winter, they resume their journey and arrive safely in Rome. Paul is allowed to speak to the Jews, and some believe his message. He remains in Rome for two years, continuing his ministry from his rented quarters. These events illustrate God's guidance, provision, and the unstoppable spread of the gospel, as Paul fulfills his mission even in the face of trials and adversity.

Romans 1 serves as an introduction to the book, establishing key themes and setting the tone for the letter. It emphasizes the universal need for the gospel, the revelation of God's righteousness, and the power of the gospel to bring salvation to all who believe, regardless of their background or status.

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## **Week 24 / Day 1**

☐ Acts 25

Why was opposition to Paul by the Jewish leaders still strong, even though Paul had been under house arrest for two years?

Why did Festus feel incapable of handling Paul's case?

How did God use Paul's arrest and imprisonment?

*OT Readings for the day: Proverbs 16-18*



## **Week 24 / Day 2**

□ Acts 26:1–27:8

How did Paul tailor his message to the audience and situation he faced?

What story of God's working in your life can you rehearse for sharing with others?

Who helped make Paul's difficult journey easier?

*OT Readings for the day: Proverbs 19-21; Psalm 40*

## **Week 24 / Day 3**

□ Acts 27:9–44

What efforts did the men on board make to battle the storm? When did they give up?

What did Paul say to encourage everyone on board in spite of the hardships ahead?

What do you do when circumstances get beyond your control?

*OT Readings for the day: Proverbs 22-23; Psalm 117*

## **Week 24 / Day 4**

□ Acts 28

Why did many people try to worship Paul?

Even in this terrible situation, how did God provide for Paul and the others who were shipwrecked?

What did Paul do in Rome?

*OT Readings for the day: Proverbs 24-25; Psalm 41*

## **Week 24 / Day 5**

☐ Romans 1

In what ways has God revealed His gospel to people?

For what reasons do Christians sometimes feel ashamed of the gospel?

How does God respond to people who ignore and deny Him?

*OT Readings for the day: Proverbs 26-28*

# Week 25 (June 19-25)

VERSE OF THE WEEK

*For the wages of sin is death, but the gracious gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
(Romans 6:23)*

In this week's reading, Paul addresses the Jews and emphasizes that they are not exempt from condemnation, highlighting the inexcusability of judging others and emphasizing God's fair judgment based on the secrets of the heart. He clarifies that the law cannot produce righteousness but rather exposes all as sinners, emphasizing that righteousness is attained solely through faith in Jesus, not through circumcision or limited to the Jews. Paul illustrates the righteousness that comes by faith using Abraham as an example, emphasizing that it is obtained the same way for all believers. He provides a reason for believers to rejoice, highlighting the certainty of future salvation based on God's love and our justification through Christ. Paul explains the believer's union with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection, emphasizing victory over sin through this union. He highlights that believers are dead to the law through Christ, as the law lacks the power to provide life or cleanse us. Paul emphasizes the law's purpose in exposing our need for redemption. In summary, these chapters address the universal need for righteousness, the role of the law, and the victory over sin through faith in Jesus Christ.

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## **Week 25 / Day 1**

Romans 2

When has God's patience and kindness brought you to repentance?

How will God deal with people who have never heard His law?

How could a person be very religious and yet be lacking a real relationship with God?

*OT Readings for the day: Proverbs 29-31*

## Week 25 / Day 2

□ Romans 3

When we realize our own sinfulness, what do we learn about the character of God?

How would you explain this passage to a person who believes that he or she is good and not guilty of any serious sins?

In what way is 3:21 a turning point in Romans so far?

*OT Readings for the day: Song of Solomon 1-3; Psalm 72*

## **Week 25 / Day 3**

☐ Romans 4

How did David describe what God does to make a person righteous?

What did Abraham believe about God that convinced him God could keep His promise?

In what ways do people act as if they must earn God's love?

*OT Readings for the day: Song of Solomon 4-6*



## **Week 25 / Day 4**

□ Romans 5:1–6:14

What are the benefits of being justified with God?

In what ways are the acts of Jesus and Adam similar?

How does God help a person discard old habits and tendencies?

*OT Readings for the day: Song of Solomon 7-8; Psalm 127*

## **Week 25 / Day 5**

□ Romans 6:15–7:25

What causes a person to be a slave to sin?

Why can't a person be his or her own master, enslaved to neither God nor sin?

How did Paul describe his own struggle to do what was right?

*OT Readings for the day: 1 Kings 5; 2 Chronicles 2*

# Week 26 (June 26-July 2)

VERSE OF THE WEEK

*But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. (Romans 8:11)*

This week we will read Romans 8-12. In Chapter 8, Paul emphasizes the freedom and security believers have in Christ, highlighting the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and the assurance of God's love and provision. Paul discusses the role of the Spirit in helping us in our weaknesses and conforming us to the image of Christ. In Chapter 9-11, he addresses Israel's rejection of Jesus as the Messiah and explains that God's promises to Israel have not been nullified, emphasizing His mercy and sovereignty in carrying out His redemptive purposes. Moving on to Chapter 12, Paul encourages believers to offer themselves as living sacrifices to God, renew their minds, use their spiritual gifts for the benefit of the body of Christ, practicing genuine love and humility. These chapters cover topics such as the role of the Holy Spirit, God's plan for Israel, and the practical aspects of living a dedicated life to God, emphasizing faith, obedience, and love in our relationship with Him and fellow believers.

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## **Week 26 / Day 1**

☐ Romans 8:1-30

What kind of spirit do God's children have?

How does suffering affect our relationship with God?

How would use this passage to bring hope to a Christian experiencing difficulties?

*OT Readings for the day: 1 Kings 6; 2 Chronicles 3*

## **Week 26 / Day 2**

□ Romans 8:31-9:13

What gives God's people the ability to respond in triumph to persecution?

What sacrifices would you be willing to make to give others a chance to know Christ?

How does Paul show that God's Word has not failed?

*OT Readings for the day: 1 Kings 7; 2 Chronicles 4; Psalm 44*

## **Week 26 / Day 3**

□ Romans 9:14-10:13

Why do we tend to question God's actions toward us or anyone else? Is it ever right to question God?

On what basis does God choose people to inherit His promises?

What had the Israelites done instead of submitting to God's righteousness?

*OT Readings for the day: 1 Kings 8; Psalm 30*

## **Week 26 / Day 4**

□ Romans 10:14–11:36

What does it take to get the message of God to someone?

What hardens a person's heart against God?

What is significant about the fact that the Jews have stumbled but not fallen?

*OT Readings for the day: 2 Chronicles 5-7; Psalm 121*

## **Week 26 / Day 5**

□ Romans 12

What are the patterns of the world that tempt us to conform?

In what ways ought we to treat others as more important than ourselves?

Why should we not take revenge?

*OT Readings for the day: 1 Kings 9; 2 Chronicles 8*



