

ANCHORED

in the Word

April - June 2024
Year 1 / Quarter 2

Dear friend,

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 Bible over the course of three years. There are selections to read five days per week. One day per week is devoted to the New Testament, three to the Old, and one to the Psalms.

For each day of the quarter this guide includes a passage to read, a one sentence summary of the day's reading, and a question to help you notice the text. The guide is divided by weeks with a blank page to take notes each week. As you consider the provided questions, think carefully about how the truths in these passages apply to your life.

- What does this teach me about God? Reflect on what the passage reveals about God's character, will, and ways.
- How can I apply this to my life? Think about practical ways the passage's teachings can be lived out in your daily life.
- Is there a command to obey or an example to follow? Look for direct instructions or examples set by biblical figures.
- What does this teach me about human nature or the world? Consider insights the passage offers about humanity and the world around you.
- Is there a promise to claim? Identify promises in the passage and reflect on their relevance to your life.
- How does this passage challenge or encourage me?
- What prayer points emerge from this reading? Use insights from the passage to guide your prayer life.
- How can I share this with others? Think about ways to discuss or demonstrate the lessons learned with those around you.

Remember to pray before, during and in response to reading. May God bless you as you read His Word! The goal is to let the Scripture speak into your life, guiding and transforming you according to its truth.

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

Week 14 (April 1-5)

VERSE OF THE WEEK

Delight yourself in Yahweh; And He will give you the desires of your heart. (Psalm 37:4)

GALATIANS 1-2

Paul defends his apostleship and recounts his journey to faith and confrontation with Peter over Gentile inclusion.

How does Paul validate his apostleship and the gospel he preaches?

GENESIS 26

Isaac receives confirmation of the covenant, deceives Abimelech about Rebekah, and experiences conflict and prosperity.

How does Isaac's interaction with Abimelech reflect his father Abraham's life?

GENESIS 27:1-40

Jacob deceives Isaac to receive the blessing meant for Esau, causing family strife.

What are the consequences of Jacob's deception on his relationship with his family, especially Esau?

GENESIS 27:41-29:14

Following Esau's murderous threats, Jacob flees to Haran, encounters God at Bethel, and is warmly received by Laban.

How does God's promise to Jacob at Bethel influence his journey and relationships?

PSALM 37:1-12

The psalm encourages trust in Yahweh & patience in the face of evil, promising the wicked will fade but the righteous will inherit the land.

What contrast does the psalmist draw between the fate of the wicked and the inheritance of the righteous?

Week 15 (April 8-12)

VERSE OF THE WEEK

The footsteps of a man are established by Yahweh, And He delights in his way. (Psalm 37:4)

GALATIANS 3-4

Paul contrasts the law and faith, illustrating the believer's identity as children of God through faith in Christ.

What argument does Paul use to explain why the law is inferior to faith in Christ for salvation?

GENESIS 29:15–30:24

Jacob marries Leah and Rachel but faces deception from Laban, leading to rivalry between his wives and the birth of many children.

How do the actions of Laban, Jacob, Leah, and Rachel contribute to the complex family dynamics and the fulfillment of God's promise to Jacob?

GENESIS 30:25–31:21

Jacob prospers despite Laban's attempts at deception, eventually fleeing with his family and wealth after God instructs him to return to his homeland.

How does God's guidance influence Jacob's decision to leave?

GENESIS 31:22–55

Jacob and Laban confront each other over Jacob's departure and alleged theft, resulting in a covenant of peace at Mizpah.

What are the key accusations and defenses in the conflict between Jacob and Laban, and how is their dispute resolved?

PSALM 37:13-24

Yahweh laughs at the wicked, for He knows their day is coming, and the fate of the righteous is contrasted with the wicked.

How does the psalmist describe the protection and provision the Lord offers to the righteous?

Week 16 (April 15-19)

VERSE OF THE WEEK

*If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk in step with the Spirit.
(Galatians 5:25)*

GALATIANS 5-6

Paul emphasizes living by the Spirit to bear His fruit and fulfill the law of Christ.

How does Paul contrast the works of the flesh with the fruit of the Spirit, and what guidance does he offer for Christian living?

GENESIS 32-33

Jacob prepares to meet Esau, wrestling with God and receiving the name Israel; the brothers reconcile peacefully.

What significance does Jacob's wrestling with God and his name change have on his character and his reunion with Esau?

GENESIS 34

Dinah, Jacob's daughter, is raped by Shechem, leading her brothers Simeon and Levi to deceitfully avenge her by slaughtering the men of Shechem's city.

What are the consequences of Simeon and Levi's actions for Jacob's family?

GENESIS 35

God reaffirms His covenant with Jacob at Bethel, where Jacob builds an altar; the narrative includes the deaths of Deborah, Rachel, and Isaac.

How do the events at Bethel and the subsequent family occurrences fulfill God's promises and test Jacob's faith and leadership?

PSALM 37:25-40

Deliverance and salvation are promised for the righteous, assuring them of God's enduring refuge and justice.

How does the psalmist illustrate the faithfulness of God towards the righteous and the inevitable downfall of the wicked?

Week 17 (April 22-26)

VERSE OF THE WEEK

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our transgressions, according to the riches of His grace. (Ephesians 1:7)

EPHESIANS 1-2

Paul describes the spiritual blessings in Christ, including predestination, redemption, and reconciliation.

How does Paul explain the transition from death to life through Christ & its implications for the Gentiles' inclusion in God's family?

GENESIS 36

Esau's descendants are listed, demonstrating Esau's move away from Jacob to Seir.

What does this chapter indicate about the fulfillment of God's promises to Abraham's descendants?

GENESIS 37-38

Joseph's dreams lead to his brothers selling him into slavery; meanwhile, Judah's line is preserved through Tamar.

How do Judah's actions with Tamar reflect on the broader themes of God's sovereignty and human morality?

GENESIS 39-40

Joseph rises to prominence, faces false accusations from Potiphar's wife, is imprisoned, and interprets the dreams of Pharaoh's officials.

What do Joseph's responses to his trials and his interpretations of the dreams reveal about his character and faith in God?

PSALMS 11-13

These psalms express trust in God amidst adversity, questioning God's presence in difficult times, and assurance of God's unfailing love and salvation.

How do the psalmists balance expressions of despair and trust in God's salvation, and what does this reveal about the nature of faith?

Week 18 (April 29 – May 3)

VERSE OF THE WEEK

To lay aside, in reference to your former conduct, the old man, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and to be renewed in the spirit of your mind, (Ephesians 4:22-23)

EPHESIANS 3–4

Paul discusses the mystery of the Gospel revealed, the unity & diversity of the body of Christ, and the call to live a life worthy of this calling.

What behaviors are expected in the unified body of Christ?

GENESIS 41:1-36

Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dreams as seven years of plenty followed by seven years of famine, advising preparation.

What does Joseph's interpretation and his advice for action reveal about his wisdom and God's providential care?

GENESIS 41:37-42:24

Joseph rises to power in Egypt, overseeing famine preparations; his brothers come for grain but do not recognize him, leading to a test.

How does Joseph's treatment of his brothers reflect his personal transformation and God's overarching plan?

GENESIS 42:25-43:34

Joseph's brothers return to Egypt with Benjamin; Joseph shows them favor but continues their testing.

How do Joseph's actions towards his brothers further test their character, and what does this reveal about his intentions?

PSALM 103

God is praised for His mercies, forgiveness, and compassionate nature, encouraging personal and communal remembrance by His people.

How does the psalmist describe God's character and actions towards those who fear Him?

Week 19 (May 6-10)

VERSE OF THE WEEK

For you were formerly darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light. (Ephesians 5:8)

EPHESIANS 5-6

Paul instructs on Christian living, focusing on relationships like marriage, and spiritual warfare.

What specific advice does Paul give for walking in love?

GENESIS 44

Joseph tests his brothers by framing Benjamin, leading to Judah's plea for Benjamin's release and offering himself as a substitute.

How does Judah's plea for Benjamin reflect a change in his character?

GENESIS 45:1-46:27

Joseph reveals his identity to his brothers, leading to a family reunion in Egypt.

What emotions and themes are evident in Joseph's revelation to his brothers, and how does this event fulfill God's sovereign plan?

GENESIS 46:28-47:31

Jacob reunites with Joseph in Egypt settles his family, ensuring their prosperity and survival.

How does Joseph's strategy in managing the famine and settling his family reflect his wisdom and God's providence?

PSALM 32

The joy of forgiveness and the security of trusting in God is celebrated, encouraging confession and teaching the way of righteousness.

What connections does the psalmist draw between confession, forgiveness, and guidance?

Week 20 (May 13-17)

VERSE OF THE WEEK

For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus. (Philippians 1:6)

PHILIPPIANS 1-2

Paul expresses joy in the Philippian church's partnership in the gospel and urges humility and unity, as exemplified by Christ's own humility.

How does Paul use Christ's example to instruct the Philippians on living in a manner worthy of the gospel?

GENESIS 48:1-49:28

Jacob blesses Joseph's sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, and prophesies the future of his family.

What is the relationship between how Jacob's sons lived their lives and what Jacob said would happen to them?

GENESIS 49:29-50:26

Jacob dies and is buried in Canaan; Joseph forgives his brothers; Joseph dies in Egypt but anticipates a return to the Promised Land.

How do the events surrounding Jacob's death illustrate themes of reconciliation, faith in God's promises, and legacy?

EXODUS 1-2

Joseph is gone; the Israelites multiply in Egypt, leading to their oppression; Moses is born, preserved, and flees to Midian after killing an Egyptian.

How does Moses' early life set the stage for his future leadership?

PSALM 113-114

Psalm 113 praises God's supremacy & mercy, while Psalm 114 recounts Israel's exodus from Egypt, highlighting God's power & presence.

How do these psalms celebrate God's character and deeds?

Week 21 (May 20-24)

VERSE OF THE WEEK

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and petition with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. (Philippians 4:6)

PHILIPPIANS 3-4

Paul warns against legalism, encourages righteousness through faith in Christ, and urges the Philippians to rejoice, be content, and rely on God's peace.

What practical advice does Paul give for living a life of joy and peace in Christ, despite external circumstances?

EXODUS 3-4

God calls Moses from the burning bush to lead Israel out of Egypt, equipping him with signs and assurances despite his hesitations.

How does God address Moses' fears and objections during his call to lead Israel?

EXODUS 5:1-6:13

Moses and Aaron's first appeal to Pharaoh results in harsher conditions for the Israelites.

How does God respond to the aftermath of Pharaoh's refusal?

EXODUS 6:14-7:25

The genealogy of Moses and Aaron is provided, God instructs Moses on his mission, and the first plague of turning the Nile into blood occurs.

Who was and who was not listening to God in the plague of blood?

PSALM 136

This psalm celebrates God's lovingkindness and mighty deeds in creation, history, and personal deliverance.

How does the refrain "His lovingkindness endures forever" contribute to the overall message of God's unwavering faithfulness and mercy?

Week 22 (May 27-31)

VERSE OF THE WEEK

For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to help those who are tempted. (Hebrews 2:18)

HEBREWS 1-3

The author asserts Christ's superiority over angels and urges attention to salvation, highlighting Jesus' humanity and role as high priest.

What arguments are presented to establish Christ's supremacy and the importance of not neglecting the salvation He offers?

EXODUS 8:1-9:12

More plagues (frogs, gnats, flies, livestock death, boils, and hail) demonstrate the power of Yahweh and the stubbornness of Pharaoh.

How do these plagues demonstrate both the power of God and the obstinacy of Pharaoh, and what is their impact on Egypt?

EXODUS 9:13-10:29

God sends plagues with each one increasing the pressure on Pharaoh to release the Israelites, yet Pharaoh's heart remains hardened.

What is the significance of God's repeated warnings to Pharaoh before each plague?

EXODUS 11:1-12:30

God announces the final plague of the firstborn's death, institutes the Passover, and delivers Israel from Egypt, fulfilling His promise and demonstrating His sovereignty.

How does the Passover and the final plague signify a turning point in the relationship between God, Israel, and Egypt?

PSALM 34

David expresses gratitude for God's deliverance, praises God's goodness, and encourages the righteous to seek God.

How does David use his personal experience of deliverance to encourage others to trust in God's goodness and protection?

Week 23 (June 3-7)

VERSES OF THE WEEK

And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are uncovered and laid bare to the eyes of Him to whom we have an account to give. (Hebrews 4:13)

HEBREWS 4-6

The writer emphasizes resting in God's promises through faith, the high priesthood of Jesus, and warns against falling away from faith.

How does the concept of rest in Hebrews relate to faith in Jesus?

EXODUS 12:31-13:22

The Israelites depart Egypt, instituting the Passover and the consecration of the firstborn, guided by Yahweh.

What significance do the Passover and the consecration of the firstborn hold for the Israelites?

EXODUS 14-15

Israel crosses the Red Sea, escaping Pharaoh's army, and Moses leads them in a song of victory praising God for their deliverance.

How does the Song of the Moses reflect Israel's response to God's salvation?

EXODUS 16

The Israelites grumble for food; God provides manna and quail, testing their obedience to His command regarding the collection of manna.

How does God's provision of food address both the physical needs and the spiritual condition of the Israelites in the wilderness?

PSALM 77

The psalmist expresses distress and doubt, then recalls God's past deeds and mighty works as a source of comfort and assurance of God's faithfulness.

What is the significance of the shift from focusing on personal troubles to remembering God's past acts of deliverance?

Week 24 (June 10-14)

VERSE OF THE WEEK

*Your word I have treasured in my heart,
That I may not sin against You. (Psalm 119:11)*

HEBREWS 7-8

Melchizedek's priesthood is superior to the Levitical priesthood, presenting Jesus as the eternal high priest of a better covenant.

How does the priesthood comparison highlight the uniqueness and superiority of Jesus' priesthood and covenant?

EXODUS 17-18

Israel battles the Amalekites and receives water from the rock; Jethro advises Moses to appoint judges to share the burden of leadership.

What lessons about trust in God can be drawn from the events at Massah and Meribah?

EXODUS 19-20

Israel arrives at Sinai, where God establishes His covenant with them and gives the Ten Commandments.

What is the significance of the covenant at Sinai for the Israel and their relationship with God?

EXODUS 21

Laws regarding servants, personal injury, and property damage are given, outlining justice and responsibility within Israel.

How do these laws reflect the character of God and the values He intended for Israel to embody?

PSALM 119:1-16

The psalmist expresses a deep love for God's law, seeing it as a source of blessing, guidance, and purity for life.

What does the psalmist's devotion reveal about the relationship between God's word and the believer's path to a blessed and righteous life?

Week 25 (June 17-21)

VERSE OF THE WEEK

For Yahweh God is a sun and shield; Yahweh gives grace and glory; No good thing does He withhold from those who walk blamelessly. (Psalm 84:11)

HEBREWS 9:1–10:18

The old covenant's earthly sanctuary and sacrifices are contrasted with Christ's superior, once-for-all sacrifice, offering eternal access to God.

How are the limitations of the old covenant's sacrifices used to illustrate the effectiveness and finality of Christ's sacrifice?

EXODUS 22

Additional laws about property, social responsibility, and justice are given, emphasizing the protection of the vulnerable.

What do these laws teach us about God's concerns?

EXODUS 23-24

God outlines laws for social justice, Sabbath observance, and festivals, followed by the covenant's ratification at Sinai.

What role do the laws in ch. 23 and the covenant ceremony in ch. 24 play in defining Israel's relationship with God and with each other?

EXODUS 25

God instructs Moses on the construction of the Tabernacle and its furnishings, which symbolize God's dwelling among His people.

What is the significance of the detailed instructions for the Tabernacle and its furnishings?

PSALM 84

The psalm expresses deep longing for God's dwelling place, celebrating the joy of worship and the blessings of those who trust in God.

How does Psalm 84 describe the beauty of God's presence and the blessings experienced by those who draw near to Him in worship?

Week 26 (June 24-28)

VERSE OF THE WEEK

And let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, (Hebrews 10:24)

HEBREWS 10:19–11:40

Believers are encouraged to persevere in faith and draw near to God; many examples are given of those who lived by faith, not receiving the promises.

What examples of faith in this passage resonate the most with you? Why?

EXODUS 26-27

Instructions for constructing the Tabernacle's tent and altar are given.

How can your work be an act of worship to God?

EXODUS 28

God details the garments for the priesthood, emphasizing their significance for holiness, dignity, and beauty in service to God.

What is the significance of the high priest's garments, and how do they symbolize his role?

EXODUS 29

This chapter outlines the consecration of Aaron and his sons as priests.

How do the consecration rituals for the priests reflect the holiness required for those who serve before God and the role of mediation they fulfill?

PSALM 132

A song of ascents recalling David's dedication to finding a dwelling place for the Lord, it celebrates God's promises to David and Zion.

What are the key promises God makes to David and Zion in this psalm, and how do they reflect the significance of God's dwelling among His people?

