

Why a Bible Reading Plan

The Bible is essentially a story about how God loves and pursues his people. Its pages tell of one story, where God is the main character and Jesus' work on the cross is the climax. Everything either looks forward to that central event or applies its having taken place. The Bible is God's invitation to get to know him and be transformed by truth. It is an amazing book, but we don't get to know the Bible by osmosis. We must engage it through reading, studying, meditating and memorizing, all the while depending on the Holy Spirit to do the work of illumination in our hearts and minds so that we can understand it.

That being said, most of us struggle to read the Bible. Maybe we don't know where to start reading or we get lost once we start. That is why we created this reading guide. This reading plan follows the preaching calendar at Redeemer Fellowship. Our hope is that reading the actual sermon text and related scripture passages during the week will help you to engage with the Bible, prepare for the sermon on Sunday, and add to your overall understanding. There are five readings per week. The first and last readings are the upcoming sermon text, and the other three days are related texts from both the Old and New Testaments.

How to Use This Reading Plan

Step 1: Locate the Scripture for the day on the chart.

Step 2: Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help you understand the passage.

Step 3: As you are reading the passage, make a note of things that jump out to you, circle key words or phrases, and write your thoughts down in a journal or in your Bible. Here are some ways to organize your thoughts.

- Summarize the main idea of the passage in a short phrase.
- Write down the main highlighted verse or portion of verse.
- Write what you notice about the passage.
- Ask, "What does this passage say about Jesus or how does it point to him?"
- Write down the implications of that truth(s) about Jesus.
- Describe what you will do or how your heart needs to change based on what God has shown you.
- Write out a prayer expressing your need for God's help.

Colossians

Reading Guide for August 23 - October 3

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Week 1 (8/23-29)	Colossians 2:16-23	Hosea 6:6	Galatians 4:1-10	Ephesians 4:1-16	Colossians 2:16-23
Week 2 (8/30-9/5)	Colossians 3:1-4	Psalms 31	John 11:17-27	Philippians 3:17-21; 4:8	Colossians 3:1-4
Week 3 (9/6-12)	Colossians 3:1-11	Ezekiel 11:17-21	1 Corinthians 6:9-11	1 Peter 4:1-6	Colossians 3:1-11
Week 4 (9/13-19)	Colossians 3:1-11	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Galatians 3:23-29	Ephesians 4:17-32	Colossians 3:1-11
Week 5 (9/20-26)	Colossians 3:12-15	Isaiah 9:1-7	Matthew 6:5-14	Philippians 4:4-9	Colossians 3:12-15
Week 6 (9/27-10/3)	Colossians 3:12-17	Psalms 100	Ephesians 5:15-21	1 Peter 2:1-12	Colossians 3:12-17