

Hatthew 4:4 – Hatthew 4:4 –

### "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

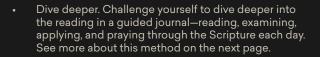
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The mission for every follower of Christ is to be with Jesus and become like Him—for the sake of the world. That all starts in one place: God's Word. To be with Jesus, we have to first spend time with Him. God wants us to know Him—not just know about Him—and studying Scripture is one foundational way that we grow in our relationship with Him.

And so, we embark on Abide—a year-long Bible reading and reflection plan. Our hope is that this next year of studying together is marked with a hunger for God's Word and a deeper faith with every passage read.

Here are some thoughts to remember as you jump in:

• Stay with it. As with any reading plan, it's important you stick it out! If you miss a day or fall behind, don't be discouraged! Pick your Bible back up and keep going!



 Don't do this alone! You'll read this truth a few times in Scripture this year, but God has made us for community! As you take His Word in and allow it to transform you, share the journey with others and tell them how God is at work!

Matthew 4:4 says this: "It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." Here we see that Scripture serves so great a purpose in our lives as believers that it's both life-giving and life-sustaining. We can take in a lot of things during our days, but nothing so transformative as the very Word of God.

We look forward to reading through the Bible with you. We pray that God uses this journey through Scripture to lead you to be and become more like Him for the sake of the world.





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PAUSE to be still. Meditate on what you've just read, allowing it to sink in.

#### REFLECT on Scripture. What was God saying to you today through His Word? Speak aloud a verse to remember, and maybe even write it down.



ASK for God's help. The challenge is to be with Jesus and become more like Him. How does today's Word challenge you to do that?

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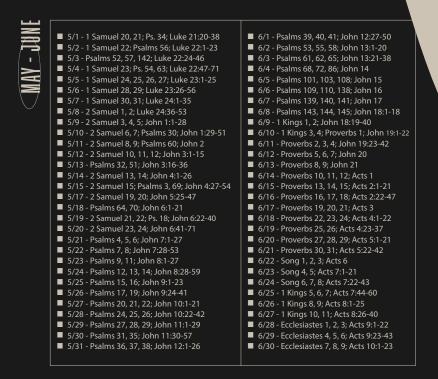
YIELD to His will in your life. God lovingly invites you into the beautiful plan He has for you, His church, and the world. Take up His invitation to live differently, understanding His plan is beyond anything we could ask or imagine.



1/1 - Genesis 1, 2, 3: Matthew 1 2/1 - Genesis 36, 37, 38; Matthew 21:1-22 1/2 - Genesis 4, 5, 6; Matthew 2 2/2 - Genesis 39, 40: Matthew 21:23-46 1/3 - Genesis 7, 8, 9; Matthew 3 2/3 - Genesis 41, 42; Matthew 22:1-22 1/4 - Genesis 10, 11, 12; Matthew 4 2/4 - Genesis 43, 44, 45; Matthew 22:23-46 1/5 - Genesis 13, 14, 15: Matthew 5:1-26 2/5 - Genesis 46, 47, 48; Matthew 23:1-22 1/6 - Genesis 16, 17; Matthew 5:27-48 2/6 - Genesis 49, 50; Matthew 23:23-39 2/7 - Exodus 1, 2, 3: Matthew 24:1-28 1/7 - Genesis 18, 19: Matthew 6:1-18 1/8 - Genesis 20, 21, 22; Matthew 6:19-34 2/8 - Exodus 4, 5, 6: Matthew 24:29-51 1/9 - Job 1, 2; Matthew 7 2/9 - Exodus 7, 8; Matthew 25:1-30 Malachi 3, 1/10 - Job 3, 4 Matthew 8:1-17 4: Revelation 22 1/11 - Job 5, 6, 7; Matthew 8:18-34 2/10 - Exodus 9, 10, 11; Matthew 25:31-46 1/12 - Job 8, 9, 10; Matthew 9:1-17 2/11 - Exodus 12, 13; Matthew 26:1-35 1/13 - Job 11, 12, 13: Matthew 9:18-38 2/12 - Exodus 14, 15: Matthew 26:36-75 1/14 - Job 14, 15, 16: Matthew 10:1-20 2/13 - Exodus 16, 17, 18: Matthew 27:1-26 2/14 - Exodus 19, 20; Matthew 27:27-50 1/15 - Job 17, 18, 19; Matthew 10:21-42 1/16 - Job 20, 21: Matthew 11 2/15 - Exodus 21, 22; Matthew 27:51-66 1/17 - Job 22, 23, 24; Matthew 12:1-23 2/16 - Exodus 23, 24: Matthew 28 1/18 - Job 25, 26, 27; Matthew 12:24-50 2/17 - Exodus 25, 26; Mark 1:1-22 1/19 - Job 28, 29: Matthew 13:1-30 2/18 - Exodus 27, 28; Mark 1:23-45 1/20 - Job 30, 31: Matthew 13:31-58 2/19 - Exodus 29, 30: Mark 2 1/21 - Job 32, 33; Matthew 14:1-21 2/20 - Exodus 31, 32, 33; Mark 3:1-19 1/22 - Job 34, 35; Matthew 14:22-36 2/21 - Exodus 34, 35; Mark 3:20-35 1/23 - Job 36, 37: Matthew 15:1-20 2/22 - Exodus 36, 37, 38: Mark 4:1-20 1/24 - Job 38, 39, 40: Matthew 15:21-39 2/23 - Exodus 39, 40: Mark 4:21-41 1/25 - Job 41, 42; Matthew 16 2/24 - Psalms 90: Leviticus 1, 2: Mark 5:1-20 1/26 - Genesis 23, 24: Matthew 17 2/25 - Leviticus 3, 4, 5; Mark 5:21-43 1/27 - Genesis 25, 26; Matthew 18:1-20 2/26 - Leviticus 6, 7; Mark 6:1-29 1/28 - Genesis 27, 28; Matthew 18:21-35 2/27 - Leviticus 8, 9, 10; Mark 6:30-56 1/29 - Genesis 29, 30; Matthew 19 2/28 - Leviticus 11, 12; Mark 7:1-13 1/30 - Genesis 31, 32; Matthew 20:1-16 1/31 - Genesis 33, 34, 35: Matthew 20:17-34

### MARCH - APRIL

<ul> <li>3/2 - Leviticus 14; Mark 8:1-21</li> <li>3/3 - Leviticus 15, 16; Mark 8:22-38</li> <li>3/4 - Leviticus 17, 18; Mark 9:1-29</li> <li>3/5 - Leviticus 19, 20; Mark 9:30-50</li> <li>4/2 - Deuteronomy 26, 27; Luke 7: 4/3 - Deuteronomy 28, 29; Luke 7: 4/4 - Deuteronomy 30, 31; Luke 8: 4/5 - Deuteronomy 32, 33, 34; Luk</li> </ul>	7:31-50 3:1-25 ke 8:26-56
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3/8 - Leviticus 25; Mark 11:1-18 4/8 - Joshua 7, 8, 9; Luke 9:37-62	24
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7/1 - Ecclesiastes 10, 11, 12; Acts 10:24-48	8/1 - Psalms 119:1-88; 1 Thessalonians 5
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7/6 - 1 Kings 21, 22; Acts 14	8/6 - Psalms 130, 131, 132; 1 Corinthians 1
7/7 - 2 Kings 1, 2, 3; James 1	8/7 - Psalms 133, 134, 135; 1 Corinthians 2
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7/20 - 2 Kings 24, 25; Acts 16:1-21	8/21 - 1 Chronicles 17, 18, 19; 1 Corinthians 13
7/21 - Psalms 1, 2, 10; Acts 16:22-40	8/22 - 1 Chronicles 20, 21, 22; 1 Cor. 14:1-20
7/22 - Psalms 33, 43, 66; Philippians 1	8/23 - 1 Chronicles 23, 24, 25; 1 Cor. 14:21-40
7/23 - Psalms 67, 71; Philippians 2	8/24 - 1 Chronicles 26, 27; 1 Cor. 15:1-28
7/24 - Psalms 89, 92; Philippians 3	8/25 - 1 Chronicles 28, 29; 1 Cor. 15:29-58
7/25 - Psalms 93, 94, 95; Philippians 4	8/26 - 2 Chronicles 1, 2, 3; 1 Corinthians 16
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7/27 - Psalms 99, 100, 102; Acts 17:16-34	8/28 - 2 Chronicles 7, 8, 9; 2 Corinthians 2
7/28 - Psalms 104, 105; 1 Thessalonians 1	8/29 - 2 Chronicles 10, 11, 12; 2 Corinthians 3
7/29 - Psalms 106, 111, 112; 1 Thessalonians 2	8/30 - 2 Chronicles 13, 14; 2 Corinthians 4
7/30 - Psalms 113, 114, 115; 1 Thessalonians 3	8/31 - 2 Chronicles 15, 16; 2 Corinthians 5
7/31 - Psalms 116, 117, 118; 1 Thessalonians 4	

# SEPTEMBER- OCTOBER

## NOVEMBER> DECEMBER

11/1 - Jeremiah 51, 30; Hebrews 7	12/1 - Ezekiel 40, 41; 2 Peter 3
11/2 - Jeremiah 31, 32; Hebrews 8	12/2 - Ezekiel 42, 43, 44; 1 John 1
11/3 - Jeremiah 33, 21; Hebrews 9	12/3 - Ezekiel 45, 46; 1 John 2
11/4 - Jeremiah 34, 37, 38; Hebrews 10:1-18	12/4 - Ezekiel 47, 48; 1 John 3
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11/6 - Jeremiah 41, 42; Hebrews 11:1-19	12/6 - Ezra 3, 4; 1 John 5
11/7 - Jeremiah 43, 44; Hebrews 11:20-40	12/7 - Haggai 1, 2; 2 John 1
11/8 - Lamentations 1, 2; Hebrews 12	12/8 - Zechariah 1, 2, 3, 4; 3 John 1
11/9 - Lamentations 3, 4, 5; Hebrews 13	12/9 - Zechariah 5, 6, 7, 8; Jude 1
11/10 - 2 Chronicles 36; Daniel 1, 2; Titus 1	12/10 - Zechariah 9, 10; Revelation 1
11/11 - Daniel 3, 4; Titus 2	12/11 - Zechariah 11, 12; Revelation 2
11/12 - Daniel 5, 6, 7; Titus 3	12/12 - Zechariah 13, 14; Revelation 3, 4
11/13 - Daniel 8, 9, 10; Philemon 1	12/13 - Psalms 74, 75, 76; Revelation 5
11/14 - Daniel 11, 12; 1 Timothy 1	12/14 - Psalms 77, 78; Revelation 6
11/15 - Psalms 137; Ezekiel 1, 2; 1 Timothy 2	12/15 - Psalms 79, 80; Revelation 7
11/16 - Ezekiel 3, 4; 1 Timothy 3	12/16 - Psalms 81, 82, 83; Revelation 8
11/17 - Ezekiel 5, 6, 7; 1 Timothy 4	12/17 - Psalms 84, 90; Revelation 9
11/18 - Ezekiel 8, 9, 10; 1 Timothy 5	12/18 - Psalms 107, 126; Revelation 10
11/19 - Ezekiel 11, 12, 13; 1 Timothy 6	12/19 - Ezra 5, 6, 7; Revelation 11
11/20 - Ezekiel 14, 15; 2 Timothy 1	12/20 - Esther 1, 2; Matthew 1; Luke 3
11/21 - Ezekiel 16, 17; 2 Timothy 2	12/21 - Esther 3, 4, 5; Revelation 12
11/22 - Ezekiel 18, 19; 2 Timothy 3	12/22 - Esther 6, 7, 8; Revelation 13
11/23 - Ezekiel 20, 21; 2 Timothy 4	12/23 - Esther 9, 10; Revelation 14
11/24 - Ezekiel 22, 23; 1 Peter 1	12/24 - Ezra 8, 9, 10; Revelation 15
11/25 - Ezekiel 24, 25, 26; 1 Peter 2	12/25 - Nehemiah 1, 2, 3; Revelation 16
11/26 - Ezekiel 27, 28, 29; 1 Peter 3	12/26 - Nehemiah 4, 5, 6; Revelation 17
11/27 - Ezekiel 30, 31, 32; 1 Peter 4	12/27 - Nehemiah 7, 8, 9; Revelation 18
11/28 - Ezekiel 33, 34; 1 Peter 5	12/28 - Nehemiah 10, 11; Revelation 19
11/29 - Ezekiel 35, 36; 2 Peter 1	12/29 - Nehemiah 12, 13; Revelation 20
11/30 - Ezekiel 37, 38, 39; 2 Peter 2	12/30 - Malachi 1, 2; Revelation 21
	12/31 - Malachi 3, 4; Revelation 22



PRAYING THE BIBLE

Intimacy with God involves the Scripture, but true intimacy is never a one-sided conversation. When we sit down to take in what God says through His Word–God's primary way of speaking to us–we respond, and we do so in prayer. This opportunity to commune with the God of the Universe is an incredible gift, but so often, it's the last thing we carve out time for in our busy days.

Maybe this is where you're at—if so, you're not alone. Many times, we don't know how or what to pray. Sometimes, we feel like our prayers are the same, day in and day out, and prayer can begin to seem dull or meaningless. But have you ever tried praying the Bible?



Praying through Scripture is one method that Jesus himself and his earliest followers used (Matthew 27:46, John 15:25, John 13:18, Matthew 23:39), and it's exactly how it sounds: **we pray what the Scriptures say.** 

Not only does this guide and refresh our prayers, but it helps us to focus as we pray and do so in a way that aligns with God's heart. We stop only taking our needs to Him (which we should always do) and start also praying for the greater scope of what God is doing in our world.

Challenge yourself to try this and see if your prayers seem more focused and empowered. Watch how the Scripture comes to life as you apply it to your prayer life.

Take it line by line, and as you read, pray whatever comes to your mind. Most times, something will come to mind. If nothing does right away, move to the next line.

the full range of human emotion. Once you get into this practice, you'll see how most of Scripture can be prayed this way.

Work your way through the Scripture, and finish with other things you need to bring to God in prayer that didn't correlate with the Scripture you prayed through.

"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." Psalm 46:1

PRAY: "God, today I am feeling weak and I'm facing a difficult situation. Thank you that I can trust you are present with me and will be a source of strength for me. You never forsake me-you are always there."

### **EXAMPLE**:



### RESOURCES

There is so much more you can learn about this method, and this particular resource is based on the book *Praying the Bible* by Donald S. Whitney. It's a short read that dives into this practice with resources you can use to make this a daily practice. To explore this concept even further, we recommend an article from Bible Gateway contributor, Andy Rau, found by scanning the QR code below.





### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

To dive even deeper, check out some of these devotionals we recommend.

1. "Morning & Evening" - Charles H. Spurgeon 2. "Everyday Prayers: 365 Days to a Gospel-Centered Faith" - Scottie Smith 3. "New Morning Mercies: A Daily Gospel Devotional" - Paul David Tripp

#### FOLLOW ALONG ON YOUVERSION





