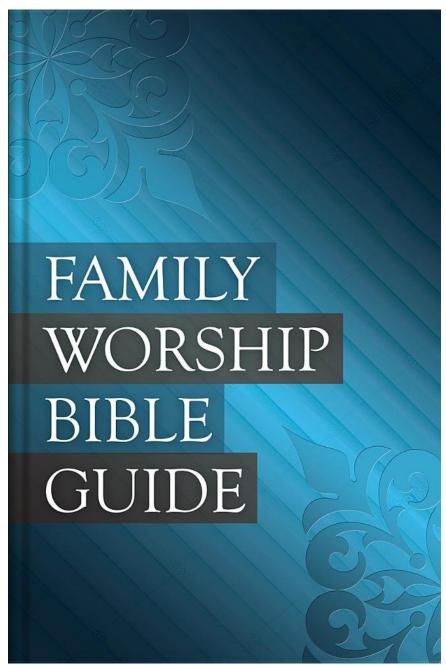
CHAPTER ADAY

an Agape Bible Reading Plan

Year 1, Quarter 4 (Oct-Dec 2020) Looking for a devotional guide to supplement your reading? Pick up Joel Beeke's 'Family Worship Bible Guide'!



This booklet belongs to





Dear Agapian,

Greetings in Christ! I am proud leave us nor forsake us even in to present to you the 4th quarter of this year's 'A Chapter A Day' booklet!

Here's 1 of the things I really appreciate about 'A Chapter A Day'. I believe it has brought about a greater maturity in our church. The reading thus far has taken us through books of Now, encountering God through the Bible that Christians who prefer short devotionals, would enough. Yet as I have mentioned have typically just avoided. So if last year- there is a practical you have read through Exodus, reward as an encouragement for Leviticus and Numbers in the 1st those of you who have managed 3 quarters, I am proud of your to complete all the readings this diligence! I believe, through year. Even if you have to catch reading all the fine details up on your reading, that's fine! and regulations for offerings You will receive this free gift for and ceremonies, you actually having completed all the assigned have come to appreciate God's chapters for 2020! We will notify especially character, holiness, more clearly than you receiving this had before.

Beyond that, I believe God has also used 'A Chapter A Day' to

our waywardness. In Christ, we have a Saviour who is infinitely bigger than all our sins combined! Our hope is in Christ our great Shepherd who will lead us, and direct us forward that we may experience His promised rest, peace and jov.

His written word is surely reward His you regarding the details for 'mysterious gift' when the time comes. Stay tuned!

But even if you have lagged far disciple our hearts uniquely behind for the reading this year, for this season. Much like don't let that deter you from the Jews wandering in the reading God's Word in this 4th wilderness, this pandemic- quarter. Here is my exhortation wrought wilderness experience to all of you for this quarter has tempted many to complain Set aside time daily to meet with or despair in similar ways. Yet, God through His Word for the through God's word, we see rest of 2020. Every minute is that our gracious God will never worth it because God is worthy!



GLORIOUS GOD,

It is the flame of my life to worship You, the crown and glory of my soul to adore You, heavenly pleasure to approach You. Give me power by Your Spirit to help me worship now, that I may forget the world, be brought into fullness of life, be refreshed, comforted, blessed. Give me knowledge of Your goodness that I might not be over-awed by Your greatness; Give me Jesus, Son of Man, Son of God, that I might not be terrified, but be drawn near with filial love, with holy boldness; He is my Mediator, Brother, Interpreter, Branch, Daysman, Lamb; Him I glorify, in Him I am set on high.

Crowns to give I have none,
but what You have given I return,
content to feel that everything is mine
when it is Yours,
and the more fully mine when I have yielded it
to You.
Let me live wholly to my Saviour,
free from distractions,
from carking care,
from hindrances to the pursuit
of the narrow way.
I am pardoned through the blood of Jesus —

am pardoned through the blood of Jesus — give me a new sense of it, continue to pardon me by it, may I come every day to the fountain, and every day be washed anew, that I may worship You always in spirit and truth.

WELCOME TO 'A CHAPTER A DAY'



We're so glad you've got this booklet in your hands! Here's a quick tour of its features.

Join The Bible Reading Challenge!

Diligently keep up with the Bible reading plan for 365 days and get a special reward at the end of 2020!

Resources

And at the end of this booklet, there is a list of resources provided for you. These resources helped shape this booklet, and the materials found in it. If you found the booklet helpful, you might want to check out some of these books and articles. They will definitely enrich your reading even further!

Supplementary Tools

This booklet is not merely a tool to guide your Bible-reading – nor is it merely for journaling! This booklet comes with resources to deepen your journey of reading the Scriptures. You could:

- join with Christians throughout this past century through praying a historic prayer
- prepare yourself to read a particular book of the Bible by understanding its context
- be inspired and encouraged by the Bible-reading journeys of your pastors and leaders

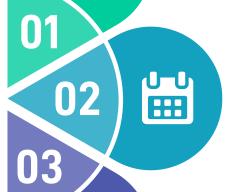
Take heart! You are not alone on this journey of reading the word!

It's Yours!

This booklet is entirely, completely, and unreservedly yours! Personalize it. Set up your own system of using it. You could treasure it and keep it in the most pristine condition possible. Or... you could scribble in, scrawl across, and scrounge up this booklet to your heart's delight. But however you use it, make sure that you do use it!

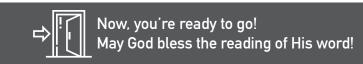
Calendar

The goal is to read through the entire Bible in 3 years. This may seem like a really long process – but here's the thing: it's actually a day-by-day project. And to help and guide you – both in the daily project, and the 3-year process – we've included calendars. These calendars help you track where you are, and what you've covered. So as you move through each day, cross it off on your calendar – and praise God for the grace He's granted you that day!



Journaling Space

In addition to the calendars, there is space provided for you to jot down a response to that day's reading(s). Is there a petition you want to make? Is there something you've learnt about God? Did God speak through His word into your situation in a particular way? Or do you have a question that arose out of that text? Capture these things – and later, share them with someone else too!



8



TIPS ON HOW TO **READ THE BIBLE**

A good way to understand and apply the Bible, is by asking the right questions as we read through it.



What do I learn about relating to others?

"God created us to be in community with one another. When he saves us from our sins, he makes us part of the body of Christ. Start by considering what the passage shows about interacting with others—family, friends, roommates, coworkers, classmates, neighbours, fellow believers, non-Christians, etc. Look for what the passage teaches about pursuing reconciliation with others. Reflect on what the passage teaches about loving, serving, and caring well for others."

- 1. What do I learn about God?
- 2. What do I learn about people?
- 3. What do I learn about relating to God?
- 4. What do I learn about relating to others?



4 What does God want me to do?

"When God's Word changes how we think, what we functionally believe, and what we desire, it will produce tangible change in what we do and don't do. Sometimes a passage gives us direct commands. But many are far less straightforward, requiring us to think carefully about specific actions in light of our current place in redemptive history. Think through what sinful actions the passage exposes in your own life as well as what godly actions you should pursue."

- 1. What does God want me to understand/ think?
- 2. What does God want me to believe?
- 3. What does God want me to desire?
- 4. What does God want me to do?

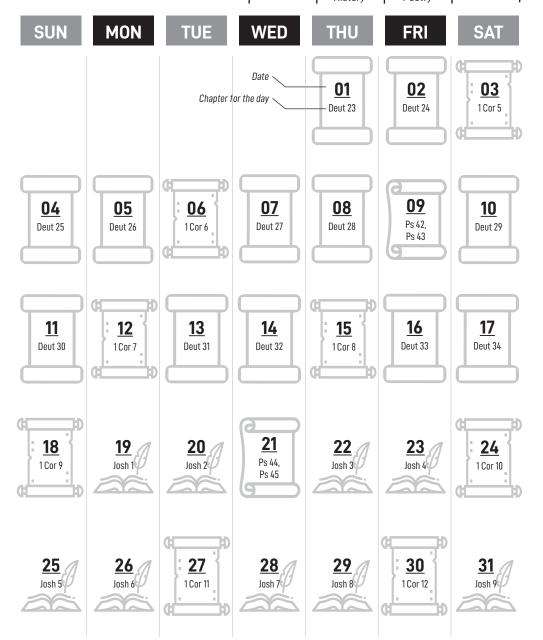
OCTOBER











Do utilize this space by journaling down your thoughts and reflections! O1 THU	02	08	09
	FRI	THU	FRI
03	04	10	11
SAT	sun	SAT	sun
05	06	12	13
MON	TUE	MON	TUE
07 WED	Prayer Items OCTOBER	14 WED	Prayer Items OCTOBER



THEOLOGY'S TUNES:

Saturated with the Psalms (Book 2)

The Hebrew title for the book of Psalms means "Praises". Yet the Psalms is not only made up of joyful adoration and thanksgiving - but also desolate cries for mercy and help.

An Overview (Book 2)

- √ Psalm 42 to 72 form 'Book 2' of the Psalms
- √ Books 1 and 2 contain much of David's prayers
- ✓ But Book 2 boasts a variety of other Psalmists: the Sons of Korah, Asaph, and Solomon
- √ Most of the psalms here were written in distress and lament
- √ The psalms here begin to include a communal voice (mentions of "us", "we", etc.)
- Book 2 ends with a royal psalm

How do I read the Psalms?

The Psalms are unlike any other book in the Bible. Here are some tips to help you appreciate the Psalms!

1 Is there background information to the psalm?

Some psalms come with 'superscripts' (or 'titles'). These provide us with further information on the situation that these psalms were written in. Do these superscripts help add depth to your appreciation of these psalms?

2 Echo the voicing of the psalms

Is the psalm a lament or a song of celebration? Is the psalm being voiced by an individual ("I", "me", "my") or a community ("we", "us", "our")? Oftentimes, the Psalms can be prayed back to God word-for-word!

3 How do you want to respond?

The Psalms is a great place for the real you to meet the real God. Can you empathise with the Psalmist? Are you troubled by what the Psalmist proclaims? Does how the Psalmist address God comfort you or disturb you? Respond honestly to God!

Jesus said that the Psalms are about Him (Luke 24:44). Do you see Him there?





Moses is dead. A new leader, Joshua ("YHWH saves"), is appointed.

In part one of God's redemption plan, Israel – under Moses' leadership – is redeemed from slavery and enters into covenant with God.

But now comes part two: Israel – under Joshua's leadership – enters into the Promise Land and is given "rest". The conquest begins...

Battle Plan

Know the terrain. Plan your strategy. Move into battle.

1 Objective: The Promised Land

God promised this land to Abraham from the very beginning. Here the Israelites would be a nation under God (a "theocracy"). Here they would live in prosperity and security. With victory, the battles would cease, and they would finally have peace. *Chart Israel's progress!*

2 Allies: God the Warrior

As much as Israel would need to fight – the battles belong to the LORD! God provides the strategy and the ability for Israel to win each piece of land. Watch for the theme of 'God giving'!

3 Threat #1: External

For Israel to take the land, she would first need to get rid of its current occupants: the Canaanites. The Canaanites were numerous, including the Hivites, Girgashites, Jebusites, Amorites, Hittites, and Perizzites. These were wicked, devious, and fierce peoples. How would Israel fare against such opposition?

4 Threat #2: Internal

But the enemies around wasn't the only threat – their own disobedience, negligence, and compromise also stumbled the Israelites in their conquest. What sins derailed Israel? How does God the Warrior overcome His own people?

Divide And Conquer

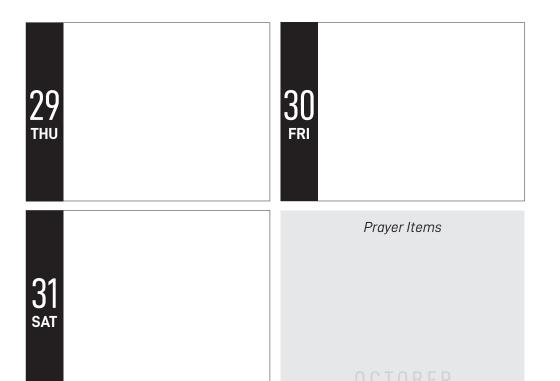
Here's a breakdown of the book of Joshua to help you master it!

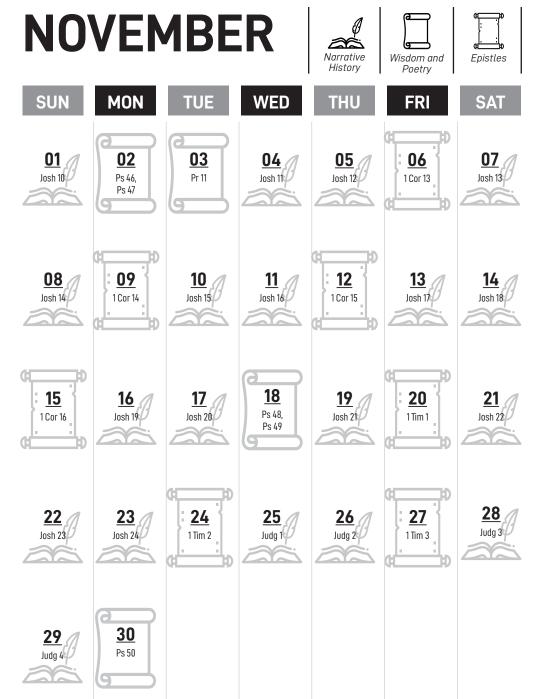
- / Crossing into the Land (1-5)
- // Taking the Land (6-12)
- /// Dividing the Land (13-21)
- /V Serving the LORD in the Land (22-24)

SUN Prayer Items

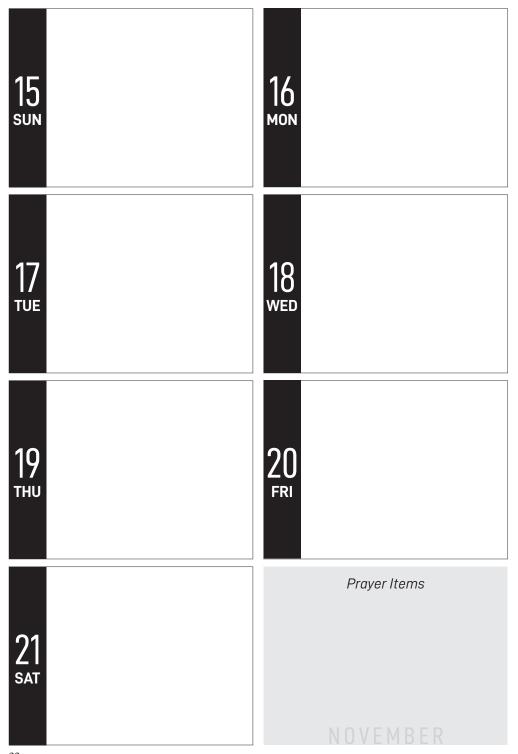
Hebrews 4:8 teaches us to regard Joshua as a type of Christ. Could there be a truer conqueror, who grants His people a truer rest, in a truer Canaan?

Be at the ready - and daily fall in step with your True General!





Do utilize this space by journaling down your thoughts and reflections! O1 SUN	02	08	09
	MON	sun	MON
03	04	10	11
TUE	WED	TUE	WED
05	06	12	13
THU	FRI	THU	FRI
07 SAT	Prayer Items NOVEMBER	14 SAT	Prayer Items NOVEMBER





1 Timothy is the first of Paul's three "Pastoral Epistles". This is his first letter to Timothy.

∄ Just for Pastors?

1 Timothy is often misunderstood as a book primarily for pastors or church leaders. But in reality, Paul's main point is that the gospel brings about clear change in believers. 1 Timothy addresses:

those being taught leaders & wannabes

citizens

church members

women & wives

many more!

(†) Short and Sweet

Here's a simple outline to help you through this letter!

- I Rallying Timothy's Resolve (1:3-20)
- // Order in Church and Life (2:1-6:2a)
 - a. On worship (2:1-15)
 - b. On overseers and deacons (3:1-13)
 - c. On why these instructions (3:14-4:16)
 - d. On widows, elders, and slaves (5:1-6:2a)
- **III** Final Clarification and Exhortation (6:2b-21)

Who is Timothy?

Every little bit we can know about the original recipient of the letter (Timothy) can go a long way!

- ✓ Timothy is the son of a Greek father and a lewish mother
- √ He came to faith through the teaching of his mother (Eunice) and grandmother (Lois)
- √ Eunice and Lois had remarkable faith; Timothy's faith was of the same kind
- Timothy was like a son to Paul
- √ He joined Paul on numerous missionary trips
- √ He was Paul's representative to several churches
- \checkmark He finally settled down as a young pastor over a diverse church in Ephesus

The gospel cannot remain conceptual or theoretical! If the gospel is true, it must result in practical and visible change. Consider: how have you stewarded the gospel that's been entrusted to you?

22	23
sun	MON
24	25
TUE	WED
26	27
THU	FRI
28 sat	Prayer Items NOVEMBER



Joshua is dead. The land God promised Abraham is only partially conquered. The son promised to Adam is nowhere to be found. Who will lead the people? Who will mediate between God and Israel? Will Israel press on to conquer the Promised Land? Has the time for Kings come (as hinted in Deuteronomy 17)? Welcome to Judges...

Downward Spiral

As you make your way through the book, you might notice a pattern:

1 Apostasy

The people of Israel turn away from God and His ways. They pursue idols. They forsake their mission to take the Promised Land. They follow after the 'inhabitants of the land'.

2 Oppression

In light of the people's rebellion, God pours forth retribution: Israel's enemies attack! In the midst of suffering and sorrow, the people realise their sin. They cry out to God in repentance.

3 Deliverance

In His mercy, God raises a judge to deliver the people out of the grip of their enemies. The people then experience a time of peace – until they return to apostasy again...

Survival Pack

Here's a simple outline to keep you on track, as you make your way through the gruesome accounts of violence, sexual abuse, idolatry, and misuse of power:

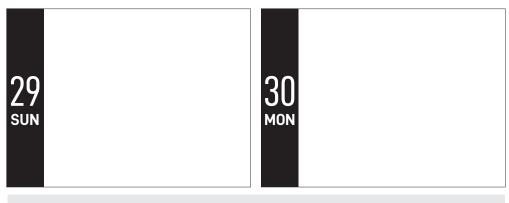
/ The Roots of Israel's Apostasy (1:1-3:6)

- a. Prelude to apostasy (1:1-2:5)
- b. The unfolding and consequences of apostasy (2:6-3:6)
- // The Downward Spiral of Israel's Apostasy (3:7-16:31)

/// The Depths of Israel's Apostasy (17:1-25:25)

- a. Religious corruption (17:1-18:31)
- b. Moral and social corruption (19:1-21:24)
- c. Final Verdict (21:25)

The book of Judges horrifies us – not simply because of its gruesome details – but because of its real-ness. Here is a picture of sin and sinners! Here is their consequence – both at the hands of sin itself, and at the hands of a furious God. Who can deliver us – once and for all? Ache and adore – surely the gospel is good news!



Prayer Items

NOVEMBER

Soul Food

a personal story by Pastor Too Teh Hsin

When I first became a Christian about 15 years ago, I was given a Bible by a friend. I had never read the Bible before. I didn't know about reading plans. So I simply read cover-to-cover from Genesis through Revelation. I found some of the stories amazing and intriguing. But I also found other parts of the Bible boring or confusing— such as the genealogies, the temple practices, and the laws.

In spite of these obstacles, I discovered after a few months of reading that God speaks to me through the Bible. For example, He showed me that sexual sins are wrong though the culture told me they were right. When I was having a lot of conflicts with someone, the words of Jesus convicted me that I should take the log out of my own eyes first.

"If I'm not careful, I can easily skip it and be deceived that all is well."

Over the years, the biggest challenge in Bible-reading that I have found is having the discipline to read it every day. If I'm not careful, I can easily skip it and be deceived that all is well.

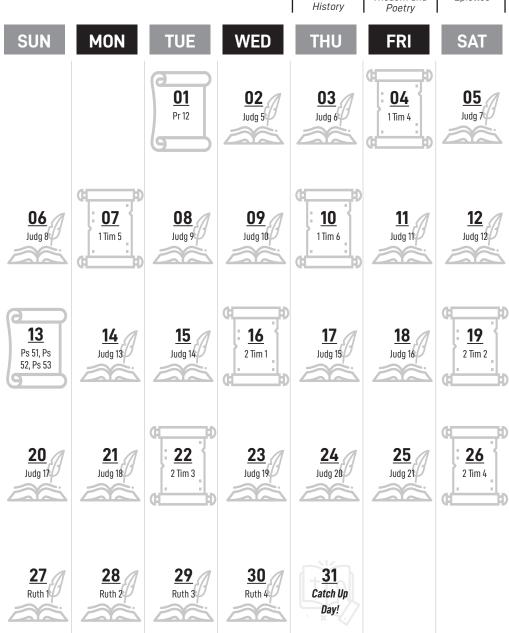
May I encourage you to press on and feed your soul with the word of God daily — as you would feed your physical body with food and water. May you find His word sweet as the honeycomb as it directs your life each day towards freedom from the many things that seek to enslave you.

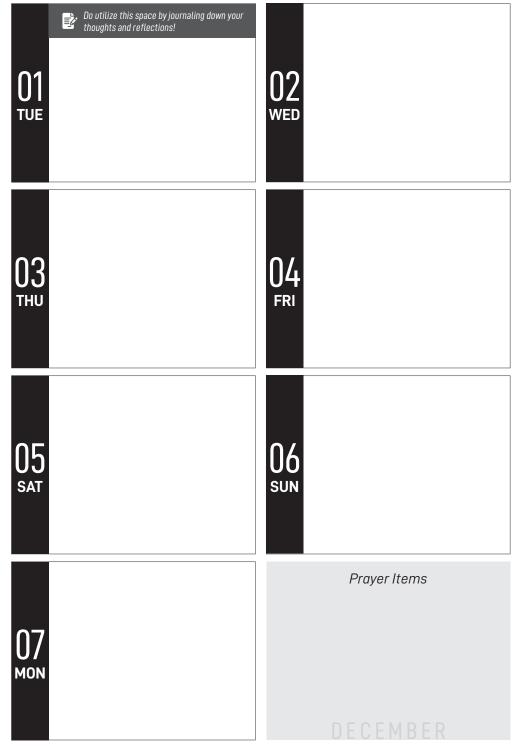
DECEMBER











08	09	15 TUE	16
TUE	WED		WED
10	11	17	18
THU	FRI	THU	FRI
12	13	19	20
SAT	sun	SAT	SUN
14 mon	Prayer Items DECEMBER	21 MON	Prayer Items DECEMBER



2 Timothy is the second of Paul's three "Pastoral Epistles". This is his second letter to Timothy.

Suffering is my Theme

Paul's impending execution hangs heavy over this book. Here are some main themes that come up as a result:

- 1 Suffering is the 'norm' for Christians
- 2 Christians respond to suffering by persevering faithfully in God's power
- 3 Christians can endure because of the gospel
- 4 The Scriptures have the power to save and to preserve
- 5 True faith is proven by perseverance

₩ Hope?

Paul was in chains, undergoing trial, and could possibly be thrown to the lions. He bore the weight of death, and also a concerned responsibility for the churches that would live on after him. Yet despite all of these, Paul writes with much hope. Here are the most recurring nouns in this book:

Lord (16)

God, Jesus, Christ (13)

Faith (9)

To Prevent Needless Suffering

Here's a simple outline, to ease you through the book!

- / Greeting and Reasons for Writing (1:1–18)
- a. Greeting (1:1-2)
- b. Thanksgiving (1:3-5)
- c. Appeal for Loyalty (1:6–14)
- d. Examples (1:15–18)
- // Priorities for Timothy (2:1—3:9)
 - a. The Appeal Renewed (2:1–13)
 - b. Dealing With False Teachers (2:14—3:9)
- /// Concluding Reminders, Instructions, and Greetings (3:10—4:22)

According to Paul, the gospel contains encouragement for the future – so much so that Christians can endure much for its sake. Is that the gospel you believe in? Press on till the gospel becomes precious!





As the glory of conquest in Joshua gives way to the disappointment of apostasy in Judges, we wonder: What is God up to? Is there hope? Enter the no-strings attached, miracleless, plain-and-ordinary, seemingly low-stakes story of Ruth...



Why is Ruth so Therapeutic?

Readers of the book of Ruth generally agree that it is highly encouraging and healing for the soul! Why is this so? Here are a few reasons:

- 1 Gritty: Life is hard! Sometimes it feels like it takes all we have just to survive (even without seeking to glorify God). The book of Ruth knows all about that...
- 2 Ordinary: The book of Ruth is so unspectacular. The dead don't rise to life. The main characters aren't supernaturally courageous or hopeful. There is no 'higher' call or quest to fulfil. In many ways, the book of Ruth reflects the ordinariness of our own life. But Ruth proves that there is beauty even in the ordinary...
- 3 Love: There's nothing like a romantic tale to pull at our heart-strings! But there's more: the unusual love between mother & daughter-in-law, the heart-warming acceptance of a foreigner, and so much more...

Wringing out the Riches of Ruth

There are numerous ways to get the most out of Ruth:



Feel along

Empathise with the struggles and iovs of the different characters! How would you have responded to adversity? How do their stories encourage you? Apply!



Listen closely

God doesn't explicitly say or do anything in this book. But how is He described by the people in the book? What do they expect of Him? What do they rejoice in Him for? Worship!

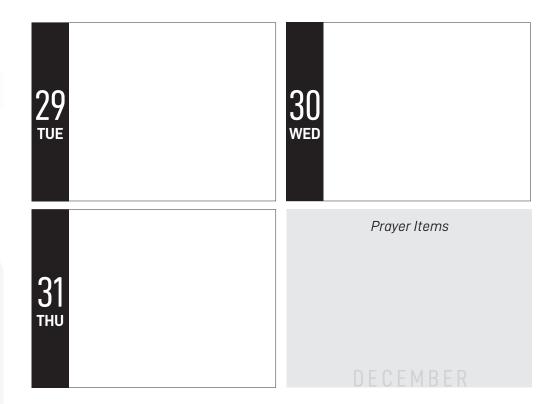


Follow the story

The story of Ruth is deceptively simple. What was God's role in the final outcome? What is the bigger picture? What does Ruth have to do with Judges and 1 Samuel? Think!

The book of Ruth ends not with Ruth's own name – but with another. In the same way, the short book of Ruth is packed with little illustrations of Jesus.

Welcome to the warmth of the Redeemer!



RESOURCES

Here are the resources that shaped this booklet – be encouraged to use them for yourself!

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Images used in this publication were taken from

Family Worship Bible Guide. Digital Image. Amazon.com. 29 December 2016. https://www.amazon.com/Family-Worship-Bible-Guide-Beeke/dp/1601785003

Landscape Waterfall. Digital Image. Deviantart.com. 11 September 2013. https://www.deviantart.com/astanael/art/Landscape-Waterfall-399383430

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