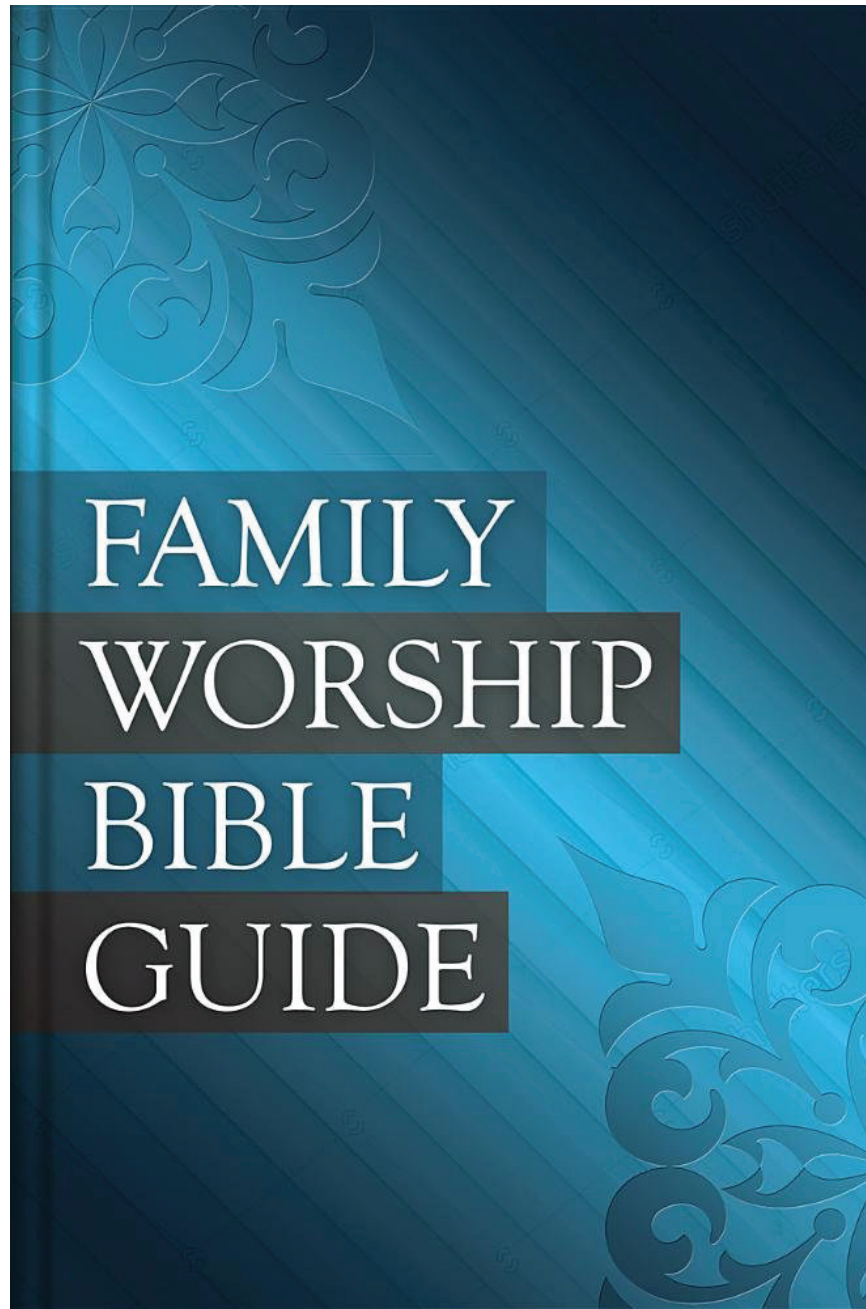


A CHAPTER A DAY

an Agape Bible Reading Plan

YEAR 2, QUARTER 4
(OCT - DEC 2021)

*Looking for a devotional guide to supplement your reading?
Pick up Joel Beeke's 'Family Worship Bible Guide'!*



This booklet belongs to

WELCOME MESSAGE

by Pastor Johanan Justin (Editor)

Dear Agapian,

Greetings once again in Christ! You are almost at the end of the reading plan for the year – *well done*. I share in your joy and pride!

Reading the Bible is a worthwhile discipline – no matter the motivation. It is always worth continuing and improving. However, it is still worth asking yourself every now and then, **“Have I grown to love God more through my Bible-reading?”**

Christian fellowship begins with earthly fellowship with Christ. Reading the Bible to improve or amass knowledge is not wrong. Nor is reading the Bible as a way of building self-discipline. *But these things are not what is finally important!*

Oh to look into the Scriptures and come face-to-face with the living Christ!

To see our sins afresh with mourning and true godly sorrow!

To understand the unparalleled, incomparable love of God – despite all our wretchedness!

And to find the words, the language, the vocabulary to verbalise His worth!

I want to encourage all of us to come to our Bibles each day. Come – not by guilt. Not by pride. Not by curiosity. *Come by faith!* There is a God, a Saviour, a Counsellor who beckons you to enter His presence as you flip through the pages of Scripture.

So would you pick up your Bibles afresh today?

Pick it up by faith.

And may God bless the reading of His word.

O GOD OF LOVE,

*I approach You with encouragements
derived from Your character,
for I am not left to feel after You
in the darkness of my nature,
nor to worship You as the unknown God.
I cannot find out Your perfections,
but I know You are good,
ready to forgive, plenteous in mercy.*

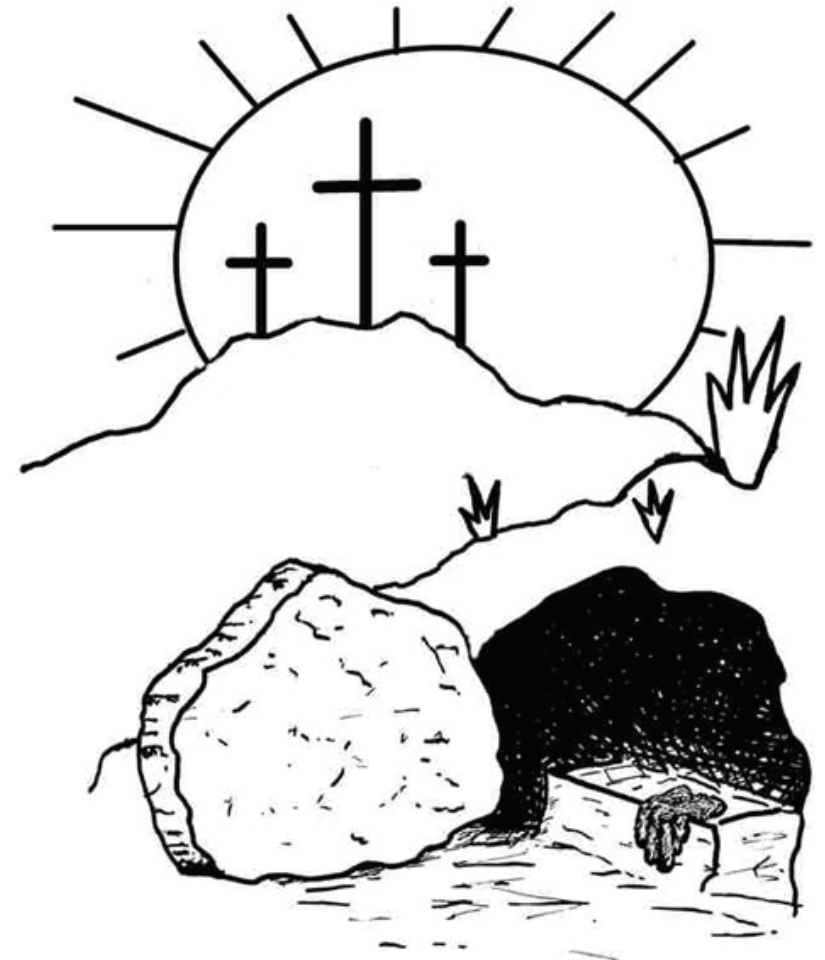
*You have displayed Your wisdom, power,
and goodness in all Your works,
and have revealed Your will in the Scripture of truth.
You have caused it to be preserved, translated,
published, multiplied,
so that all men may possess it and find You in it.*

*Here I see Your greatness and thy grace,
Your pity and Your righteousness,
Your mercy and Your truth,
Your being and men's hearts;
Through it You have magnified Your name,
and favoured mankind with the gospel.*

*Have mercy on me,
for I have ungratefully received Your benefits,
little improved my privileges,
made light of spiritual things,
disregarded Your messages,
contended with examples of the good,
rebukes of conscience,
admonitions of friends,
leadings of providence.*

*I deserve that Your kingdom be taken away from me.
Lord, I confess my sin with feeling, lamentation,
a broken heart,
a contrite spirit, self-abhorrence,
self-condemnation, self-despair.
Give me relief by Jesus my hope,
faith in His name of Saviour,
forgiveness by His blood,
strength by His presence,
holiness by His Spirit:*

And let me love You with all my heart.



WELCOME TO 'A CHAPTER A DAY'

Congratulations on making it through the first year's readings! This booklet you hold in your hands is designed to help you through this second year.

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!

Resources

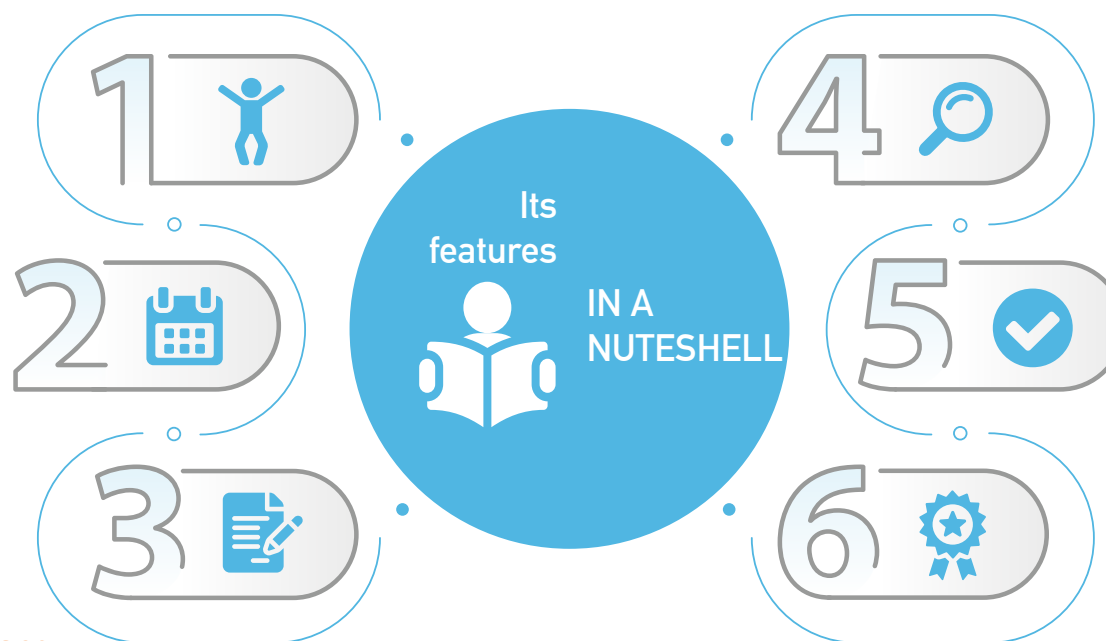
This booklet is not merely a tool to guide your Bible-reading – nor is it merely for journaling! This booklet comes with resources to deepen your journey of reading the Scriptures. You could:

- 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!

Credits

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 find the booklet helpful, you might want to check out some of these books and articles. They will definitely enrich your reading even further!



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 2021!



Now, you're ready to go!
May God bless the reading of His word!

TIPS ON HOW TO READ THE BIBLE

Last year we learnt 8 questions to help us understand and apply the Bible. This year, we look at 4 steps to guide our reading of the Bible.

1

Investigate the **CONTEXT**

- > Who is writing this passage?
Who is this passage written to?
- > Why was this passage written?
- > From the passage, can you tell what is going on in the lives of the author & the recipients?
- > What happened in the passage just before? What is the link to the current passage?

2

Make your **OBSERVATION**

- > What "jumps out" at you from the passage? What interests or troubles you?
- > Is something repeated (word, phrase, pattern, etc.)?
- > What are the connecting words in the passage (therefore, for, but, because, etc.)?
- > What is the main point of the passage?

3

Find the **MEANING**

- > Is there a character in the passage we can learn from?
- > How does this passage relate to other parts of the book?
- > What can we learn about God and about life in the world?
- > How does this passage anticipate or illustrate the gospel?

4

Keep the **APPLICATION**

- > How does this passage challenge or confirm your understanding of God and the faith?
- > Is there some attitude or behaviour you need to change?
- > How does this passage lead you to trust God and his promises in Jesus?
- > How does this passage call on you to change the way you live?

OCTOBER



Narrative
History



Wisdom and
Poetry



Prophecy



Gospels and
Acts

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MON

TUE

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FRI

SAT

31

Isa 2



03

Neh 6



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Lk 7



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Lk 8



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Est 7



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Lk 5



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Neh 11



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Est 3



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Est 8



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Neh 7



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Neh 12



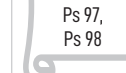
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Est 4



26

Ps 97,
Ps 98



Date

Chapter for the day

Mark down once you've
read the chapter!

01

Ps 94



Example

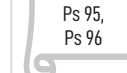
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Lk 6



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Ps 95,
Ps 96



21

Est 5



28

Est 10



01

Ps 94



08

Neh 9



15

Est 1



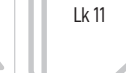
22

Est 6



29

Lk 11



02

Neh 5



09

Neh 10



16

Est 2



23

Lk 10



30

Isa 1



 Do utilize this space by journaling down your thoughts and reflections!

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Prayer Items

OCTOBER

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Prayer Items

OCTOBER

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Prayer Items

OCTOBER

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Prayer Items

OCTOBER



ILLUMINATE, IGNITE, INSPIRE:

Immersed in Isaiah

Israel knew the promises God had made to Abraham and David. These promises were not only for Israel, but for the whole world! Still, the Israelites' trust shifted away from God. In the Southern Kingdom of Judah, the people continued to worship God – but their hearts were far from Him. They instead began to put their trust in the powers and promises of the world around them. *The story of Israel continues...*

Immaculate Illustration

One of the biggest themes in the book of Isaiah – is God!
Who is He? He is:

- ☞ the Holy One of Israel (1:4)
- ☞ worthy of exclusive worship (2:2–4)
- ☞ the One who atones for sin (6:7)
- ☞ the God of wrath (9:12, 17, 21; 10:4)
- ☞ the God of endless salvation (12:3)
- ☞ the Sovereign over the whole world (13:1–27:13)
- ☞ the Realiser of the blessing of His people (43:3–7)
- ☞ the only Saviour (43:10–13)
- ☞ the gloriously central figure in all of reality (45:22–25)
- ☞ God Himself, who does everything for His own sake (48:11)
- ☞ whose gospel is “good news of happiness” (52:7)
- ☞ the One who is high and lifted up but who also dwells down among the “contrite and lowly” (57:15)

Enigmatic Isaiah

Who is Isaiah? All we know is that he is the son of Amoz, a married man, a father, and a resident of Jerusalem. Isaiah means “Yahweh is salvation”. He is a prophet (*or a seer of visions*). But ultimately, the book of Isaiah focuses upon its message, not on Isaiah himself!

Investigative Insights

This is a tougher read! Isaiah is not a continuous story – but may the following structure help!

- I Introduction: The Problem of Servanthood (1:1–5:30)
- II Isaiah's Commission (6:1–13)
- III Trust: The Basis of Servanthood (7:1–39:8)
- IV Grace: The Motive and Means of Servanthood (40:1–55:13)
- V Righteousness: The Centre of Servanthood (56:1–66:24)

*Isaiah's message will either harden your pride – or it will lead you to rejoice! For behold: The Saviour of offenders, God-with-us (7:14); a child destined to rule forever (9:6–7); the hope of the Davidic throne (11:1); the glory of the LORD (40:5); the suffering servant of the LORD (42:1–9; 49:1–6; 50:4–9; 52:13–53:12); the anointed preacher of the gospel (61:1–3); the bloodied victor over all evil (63:1–6) – and more! **Behold the Christ!***

NOVEMBER



Wisdom and Poetry



Prophecy



Gospels and Acts

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	01 Lk 12	02 Isa 3	03 Isa 4	04 Lk 13	05 Isa 5	06 Isa 6
07 Ps 99, Ps 100, Ps 101, Ps 102	08 Pr 18	09 Isa 7	10 Isa 8	11 Lk 14	12 Isa 9	13 Isa 10
14 Lk 15	15 Isa 11	16 Isa 12	17 Lk 16	18 Isa 13	19 Isa 14	20 Ps 103
21 Isa 15	22 Isa 16	23 Lk 17	24 Isa 17	25 Isa 18	26 Lk 18	27 Isa 19
28 Isa 20	29 Lk 19	30 Isa 21				

 Do utilize this space by journaling down your thoughts and reflections!

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Prayer Items

NOVEMBER

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Prayer Items

NOVEMBER

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Prayer Items

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Prayer Items

NOVEMBER

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Prayer Items

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER



Wisdom and
Poetry



Prophecy



Gospels and
Acts

SUN

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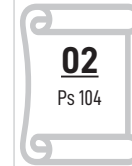
01

Isa 22



02

Ps 104



03

Isa 23



04

Isa 24



05

Lk 20



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Isa 25



07

Isa 26



08

Lk 21



09

Isa 27



10

Isa 28



11

Lk 22



12

Isa 29



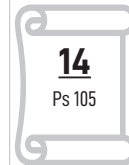
13

Isa 30



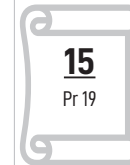
14

Ps 105



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Pr 19



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Isa 31



17

Isa 32



18

Lk 23



19

Isa 33



20

Isa 34



21

Lk 24



22

Isa 35



23

Isa 36



24

Dan 1



25

Isa 37



26

Isa 38



27

Dan 2



28

Isa 39



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Isa 40



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Isa 41



31

Dan 3



Ps - Psalms | Pr - Proverbs | Isa - Isaiah | Dan - Daniel | Lk - Luke

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11
SAT

A large, empty white rectangular area, likely a placeholder for an image or content. The rectangle is bordered by a thin black line. To the left of the rectangle is a dark vertical bar containing the text '13 MON' in white, bold, sans-serif font. The number '13' is significantly larger than the word 'MON'.

15 WED		16 THU	
17 FRI		18 SAT	
19 SUN		20 MON	
21 TUE		Prayer Items DECEMBER	

22 WED		23 THU	
24 FRI		25 SAT	
26 SUN		27 MON	
28 TUE		Prayer Items DECEMBER	



DENS AND DREAMS:

Defiant Daniel

The people of God are defeated and in exile. The best and brightest are led away into captivity – right into the heart of the evil Babylonian empire. Should the people of God rebel? How will they fare?

The story of Israel continues...

⌘ Dogged Daniel

Daniel is one of the most enduring characters in the Bible. Uprooted from Judah. Forced into exile in the most powerful city in the world. He endures having his name changed. He endures having to serve pagan kings. He endures subjecting himself to an arguably less delectable diet. He *even* endures multiple plots and schemes against his life!

Yet even as the empire changes hands across 5 kings, and across 2 superpowers – *Daniel still remained!* Daniel's daring faithfulness to God in uncharted territory is actually a powerful display of the faithfulness of God. *Would you dare take up the challenge?*

⌘ Describing Daniel

A simple breakdown of the book of Daniel!

/ **Daniel and the Three Friends in a Foreign Court (1:1-6:28)**

// **Four Apocalyptic Visions (7:1-12:4)**

/// **Final Words (12:5-13)**

⌘ Danger, Doctrine, and Dividends

Daniel demands our undivided dedication! Here are some things Daniel teaches us:

- 1 Faithfulness in a godless world.** Pagan influences. Worldly propaganda. Outright dismissal of Yahweh. How can God's people survive – *or even thrive* – in such a world? *Daniel proves that it is possible!*
- 2 Drawing the line.** Daniel had to subject himself to numerous degradations. Yet he only drew the line at eating the King's food. In the face of discouragement, and discriminatory laws against the worship of God – Daniel turned to God. *When faced with the depravity of this world, God's presence is our comfort - and intercession is our rebellion!*
- 3 The Kingdom of God.** No other Old Testament book brings across the Kingdom of God with such clarity. God's kingdom is a rock that shatters the kingdoms of this world! God's kingdom will triumph over the beasts and their horns, through the "Son of Man"! God's kingdom is everlasting; it will succeed the kingdoms of this world. *God's side is always the winning side!*

The kingdom of this world is not our kingdom. Behold the "Son of Man" who comes to answer the cry: "Your kingdom come! Your will be done! On earth as it is in heaven."

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Prayer Items

DECEMBER

END OF YEAR EVALUATION

You're almost at the end of another year of reading "A Chapter A Day". How is your soul doing? How is your fellowship with Christ doing? This is a good time to pause and to take stock, by reflecting upon the following questions!

01

Have you enjoyed God more through the reading of His word?

02

What did you find most difficult/impossible about reading God's word?

03

Which area of your Bible-reading did you see the most progress in, this year?

04

What was the biggest hindrance/obstacle to your Bible-reading this year?

05

Whose salvation were you most led to pray for through your Bible-reading this year?

06

How was your Bible-reading this year different from last year's?

07

What detail from this year's Bible-reading will you likely remember for another 10 years?

08

Which book from this year's Bible-reading was the biggest joy for you?

09

Which book from this year's Bible-reading was the most challenging for you?

10

What one biblical doctrine do you most appreciate through this year's Bible-reading?

11

If those who know you best gave you one piece of advice about your Bible-reading this year, what would they say? Would they be right? What will you do about it?

12

What one piece of advice or encouragement would you give others about reading the Bible?

13

Is there a spiritual legacy that your Bible-reading this year has inspired you to leave behind?

14

What single blessing would you want to seek from God for next year's Bible-reading?

Reflection is a rich way of bringing the practice of Bible-reading back into the context of faith and fellowship with God! So grab a drink, prepare your journal, set aside time, get alone – and draw near to God. May the Lord bless you and meet with you!

RESOURCES

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

*Begg, Alistair. (2021). **Where We Draw the Line: How to Live (and Die) in Babylon.** Retrieved from <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/where-we-draw-the-line>*

*Bennett, Arthur. (2007). **Valley of vision.** Retrieved from <https://banneroftruth.org/>*

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*Whitney, Donald. (2003). **31 Questions for the New Year.** Retrieved from <https://www.reviveourhearts.com/articles/31-questions-for-the-new-year/>*

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Religious Easter Coloring Page. Digital Image. Colouring Home. Retrieved 12 Aug 2021. <https://coloringhome.com/coloring-page/1943970>

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Agape



BAPTIST CHURCH