

# Bible Reading Plan

## The Best Way to Gain Biblical Literacy

Yes, we can (and should) read the weekly Lectionary readings ahead of the Service. Yes, we should read the passages in the daily devotions. But that's not all.

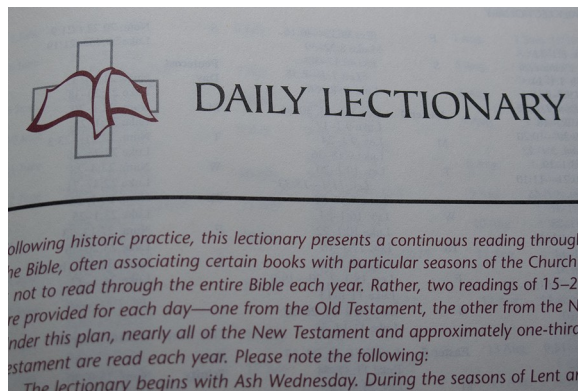
Everyone knows that the best way to get acquainted with that Bible is to read it through, again and again.

We meet some fellow churchgoers who feel "far away from God". Common answer: You need to "get into the Word". Good advice, but not complete advice.

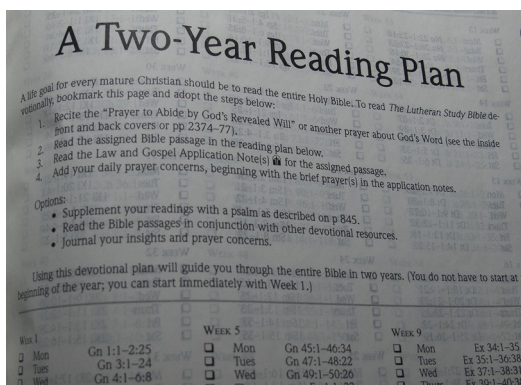
Maybe a better question is "What's your Bible reading plan?"

## What kinds of plans are there?

- The Lutheran Service Book (hymnal) has a Daily Lectionary that gives a nice overview of the Bible. Starting on page 299.

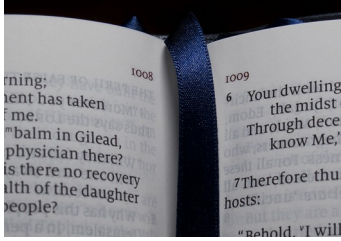


- The Lutheran Study Bible has a 2-year reading plan on page lix, in the front.



- Pr. Bryan Wolfmueller presents an alternative plan: <https://wolfmuelle.co/biblereadingplan/>

- Some plans are as simple as a bookmark: Read some, place ribbon at start of next reading.



### Discuss with Pastor!

How might the church-members see the activity of Daily Bible Reading?

- A task that must be done, or else...
- A checklist-item to be done as quickly in a day as possible
- A matter of competition
- An invitation to hear God's plain words.

What are the pros and cons of various reading plans?

We can get distracted away from things we really want to do! What does the Pastor recommend for ways not to get distracted from Daily Bible Reading?

What strategies does the Pastor recommend for ways to re-establish the habit of Daily Bible Reading?

### Essay!

Think these questions out on paper:

- Your fellow parishioner has taken the ambitious challenge to Read the Bible through in less than a year. He has fallen off the plan, and hasn't opened his Bible for several weeks. What might you say to someone who is discouraged in this situation?
- Which church-members might be encouraged by the question "What did you see in the Bible lately?" Is this a risky question – might it discourage, more than encourage?
- How do we share that we are invited to receive a gift that is the Bible reading?
- How do we avoid the legalistic tone that misses the gracious offer of the Word spoken to us?
- How might we encourage "resilience" – springing back to Reading the Bible, if one got distracted away from the habit?

### Credit where due!

The best discussion I've heard recently is by Pr. Jonathan Conner. He has good ideas on:

- forming the habit vs. working a set quota
- choosing critical times of day
- reading for the enjoyment.

Look for his podcasts at <https://issuesetc.org>

Search the IssuesEtc site for "jonathan conner" to see his list of **Kids Have Questions** podcasts.

Link to Part 21: <https://issuesetc.org/2024/02/19/0502-kids-have-questions-part-21-pr-jonathan-conner-2-19-24/>

