

BIBLE TOOLKIT

JOHN READING PLAN

AN INTRO TO JOHN

There are four books in the Bible that chronicle the earthly ministry of Jesus: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. They are called "The Gospels". The first three are called the "synoptic gospels" (which means "see-together"), because they present the life of Jesus in a very similar format. While they mostly describe the many events in the life of Jesus, John emphasizes the meaning of those events. The synoptic gospels focus on what Jesus taught and did, but John focuses more on who Jesus is.

- John shows us who Jesus is by highlighting seven miracles of Jesus (six of which are not mentioned in the other gospels).
- John shows us who Jesus is by allowing Jesus to speak for himself in the seven "I Am" statements of Jesus.
- John shows us who Jesus is by presenting other witnesses who also testify about the identity and deity of Jesus (that he is God). Four of these witnesses speak in the first chapter alone.

Each gospel account was written for a specific purpose and to specific people (and eventually, for us!). John makes clear in John 20:31 that the whole purpose of his writing is so that his readers will believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and that by believing, they will have life in His name. As you read through this beloved book, some simple questions can really help you interpret and understand the Bible, and apply it to your everyday life.

READING PLAN THROUGH THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

QUESTIONS FOR INTERPRETATION

1. What did I learn about God?

God is the main character of the Bible. He is always working, always moving, and always at the center. Sometimes he is not mentioned directly (like in the book of Esther), but every passage of Scripture reveals something about God and his character.

2. What did I learn about people?

Humans were created in the very image of God and are the pinnacle of his creation. See what Scripture says about our fallen condition—our sinful beliefs, attitudes, feelings, actions. Then consider what the text says about living as people who have been saved and redeemed from all of that through the work of Christ.

3. What did I learn about relating to God?

Loving God with everything we are can express itself in different ways. Look for reasons to praise God. Consider what sin you need to confess and repent of. Look for promises that God calls you to believe in him.

4. What did I learn about relating to others?

When you became a follower of Jesus, you were adopted into his big, beautiful family. Does the passage say anything about interacting with others? Look for what the text teaches about pursuing reconciliation with others. Reflect on what the passage teaches about loving and caring for others.

QUESTIONS FOR APPLICATION

1. What does God want me to understand?

God has given you the mind of Christ (1 Corinthians 2:16), but we are still sometimes tempted to think the way we did before we knew Jesus. Lasting transformation begins with changing the way you think-God calls it renewing your mind (Romans 12:1-2). Reflect on how the passages encourages you to think.

2. What does God want me to believe?

Don't read just to be filled with knowledge. Knowing what the Bible says is a wonderful thing, but don't miss the forest for the trees. Let God's Word deepen your trust in him, and your belief in what he says.

3. What does God want me to desire?

We are called to desire God above all else (Psalms 42:1-2), but without his help, we still desire things that will pull our affections away from him. Reflect on what the passage says or implies about cultivating godly desires.

4. What does God want me to do?

As people who have been loved and accepted by God, we don't have to do anything to retain his approval or to gain his love. There is nothing we can do that will make God love us more or less. But spending time with God and in his Word will change you from the inside out. There are commands in Scripture, and things that children of God are called to, and the more time you spend with God, the more you will desire to be like him and to obey him.

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30-DAY READING PLAN WITH
RECOMMENDED READING
DAY 1: John 1:1-28 | Genesis 1:1-5,
DAY 2: John 1:29-2:11 | Mark 1:4-11
DAY 3: John 2:11-25 | Leviticus 19:30, Psalm 69:9
DAY 4: 7ohn 3:1-21 | Romans 3:10-12
DAY 5: John 3:22-4:9 | 2 Corinthians 4:3-4
DAY 6: John 4:5-27 | Jeremiah 2:13, Ephesians 2:8-9
DAY 7: John 4:28-54
DAY 8: John 5:1-46 | Philippians 2:9-11
DAY 9: 70hn 6:1-15 | Psalm 23:1-3
DAY 10: John 6:16-35 | Psalm 23:4-6
DAY 11: John 6:35-71 | Romans 8:31-34
DAY 12: John 7:1-36 | Romans 8:6-8
DAY 13: 70hn 7:37-8:1 | 1 Corinthians 1:25-27
DAY 14: John 8:2-11 | Leviticus 20:10
DAY 15: John 8:12-58 | Romans 8:14, Galatians 3:26
DAY 16: 7ohn 9 | Romans 10:9,17
DAY 17: John 10:1-39 | Acts 2:22-23
DAY 18: John 10:40-11:44 | Romans 8:29-31
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DAY 19: John 11:44-12:19 | Zechariah 9:9

DAY 20: John 12:20-43 | Isaiah 53

DAY 21: John 12:44-13:30 | Philippians 2:5-11

DAY 22: John 13:31-14:11 | James 1:2-4

DAY 23: John 14:12-31 | Romans 8:14-16

DAY 24: John 15:1-17 | Colossians 1:9-10

DAY 25: John 15:16-16:33 | Ephesians 1:3-6

DAY 26: John 17:1-18:9 | Hebrews 1:3, Colossians 2:6-8

DAY 27: John 18:7-19:5 | John 6:39, Romans 8:28

DAY 28: John 19:5-42 | Isaiah 53:7, 2 Corinthians 5:21

DAY 29: John 20 | Psalm 16:10, 1 Corinthians 1:18

DAY 30: John 21