



## **30 Days to Knowing Jesus** **Bible Reading Plan:**

| <b><u>Day</u></b> | <b><u>Theme Passage</u></b>  |
|-------------------|--|
| 1                 | <b>Jesus Foretold</b> Isaiah 53  |
| 2                 | <b>The Birth of Jesus</b> Matthew 1:18–25  |
| 3                 | <b>John the Baptist Prepares the Way and Baptizes Jesus</b> Matthew 3:1—4:11               |
| 4                 | <b>Water to Wine and the Samaritan Woman</b> John 2:1–11; John 4:1–26                      |
| 5                 | <b>Jesus Rejected in his Hometown</b> Luke 4:14–30   |
| 6                 | <b>Jesus Calls his Disciples</b> Luke 5:1–11; Matthew 9:9–13                               |
| 7                 | <b>Sermon on the Mount</b> Luke 6:17–46  |
| 8                 | <b>A Centurion, a Widow's Son and a Sinful Woman</b> Matthew 8:1–13; Luke 7:11–17; 7:36–50 |
| 9                 | <b>Encounters With the Pharisees</b> Matthew 12:1–13; 22–45                                |
| 10                | <b>Parable of the Sower, Weeds and Seeds</b> Matthew 13:1–43                               |
| 11                | <b>Jesus Calms the Storm and Later Walks on Water</b> Luke 8:22–25; Mark 6:45–56           |
| 12                | <b>Jesus Heals a Man, Woman and Girl</b> Mark 5:1–43                                       |
| 13                | <b>Feeding of the 5000</b> John 6:1–14   |
| 14                | <b>Peter Identifies the Christ and the Transfiguration</b> Luke 9:18–27; Luke 17:1–8       |
| 15                | <b>Healing by Faith</b> Mark 9: 14–32  |
| 16                | <b>Teachings and Parables</b> Matthew 17:24—18:20  |
| 17                | <b>Teachings and Parables</b> Matthew 18:21—19:15  |
| 18                | <b>The Rich Young Ruler</b> Mark 10:17–31  |
| 19                | <b>Disciples Sent Out</b> Luke 10:1–24   |
| 20                | <b>The Good Samaritan</b> Luke 10:25–37  |
| 21                | <b>Jesus Teaches how to Pray</b> Luke 11:1–13  |
| 22                | <b>Jesus Revives Lazarus</b> John 11:1–44  |
| 23                | <b>Jesus Comes to Jerusalem</b> Matthew 21:1–27  |
| 24                | <b>The Last Supper</b> John 13:1–17; Matthew 26:17–35                                      |
| 25                | <b>Comfort for the Disciples</b> John 14–15  |
| 26                | <b>Jesus Arrested and Disowned</b> Matthew 26:36–75  |
| 27                | <b>Jesus' Trial</b> John 18:19—19:16   |
| 28                | <b>Jesus Crucifixion and Death</b> John 19:17–42   |
| 29                | <b>Jesus' Resurrection and Appearances</b> John 20–21                                      |
| 30                | <b>The Great Commission and the Ascension of Jesus</b> Matthew 28:16–20; Luke 24:50–53     |

## Helpful Guides for this Bible Reading Plan:

### How do I find the books of the bible?

In the front of your bible should be an index of the books of the bible. Almost all of these references are from the New Testament (the last quarter of the bible) and from the first four books of the New Testament.

The order of the 1<sup>st</sup> four books of the New Testament are Matthew, Mark, Luke, & John - these books are referred to as "The Gospels" which means "good news". They are where almost all of the life and teachings of Jesus are recorded. When looking up a bible verse it will be listed like this "Matthew 1:18-25", Matthew is the book, 1 is the chapter or "big number" and the 18-25 refers to the verses (the small numbers).

### My bible has text above and below, which do I read?

If you have a bible someone gave you that has text written above and below, usually the text above is the actual text of the bible, and below are the cliff notes to help you understand what you are reading or to answer questions that are common about those verses.

### Ok, I read it, now what? Am I supposed to have an epiphany?

Learning to ask the right questions makes all the difference in studying the bible. Try doing this and see if it helps. Get a journal that you can keep by you while you read the bible. In it, answer these questions each time you study a passage of scripture.

1. What did I learn about Jesus or God from this passage that I didn't know or understand before?
2. What is important about this passage (in other words, why was this particular story recorded)?  
**Some examples:** *Jesus was trying to tell us what it's like to really have faith. Or, Jesus was using his power to show people that He was really God.*
3. From this passage, what are things that I think God would want me to change in my life, or in our society?

There are a lot more questions you can ask, but if you start with these, you'll do great!

### What kind of bible should I be reading?

We would suggest that you get a version of the bible called the NIV (New International Version) or the NLT (New Living Translation) - these are translated from the original languages using the language the way we actually speak. If you try to read from a King James Version - you will probably find yourself getting discouraged right away.

We would also suggest considering investing in something called a "Study Bible" these bibles have text at the bottom of the page designed to help you better understand the context of what you are reading.