

Biblical Literacy Plan for Sciency People

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The aim of this plan is to:

- (1) Improve biblical literacy including, (a) strengthening familiarity with the Bible and (b) increasing skills in interpretation; in order to
- (2) Better grasp the character of God, so that we might
- (3) Better perceive God's presence and action in the world and our lives;
- (4) Have better tools for discerning what God desires of us, including purposes for our lives; and to
- (5) Be a better resource for others who may struggle with how scientific insights are integrated into Biblical wisdom, such as colleagues, students, or fellow church members.

That is, better biblical literacy is a valuable way to equip us to better love God and love others.

Recommendations for use: (1) Complete 2-3 rows each week to finish within one year, or go faster or slower as you like. (2) Try to do the specified biblical readings all in the same day (if not the same sitting) to better follow the continuity of the text. (3) Journal questions and reflections as you go to strengthen your comprehension. Wondering which version of the Bible to use? [Here's a helpful overview of many possibilities.](#)

The aim is not to master all of the details of these readings, but to gain general conceptual anchors for major sections of the Bible and its overall structure and message. I find it helpful to journal as I read and watch, and otherwise note questions that the text raises for me. I am also trying to make it a habit to begin my readings by asking God what He wants to tell me about Himself or His desires for me through the text, in an effort to keep this practice from becoming merely an intellectual exercise. Here is an example of such a prayer:

Heavenly Father, as I spend time reading the Bible and considering how you have revealed yourself through history, your prophets and teachers, and especially as Jesus Christ, please open me to you Spirit's voice. Let me hear what you want me to know about you and how to love you well. Let me grow more aware of your presence around and within me. I pray this with thanks and in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Media type	Name
Reading	" Thinking about Divine Revelation ," Barrett.
The Bible Project video (TBP video)	What is the Bible?
TBP video	The Story of the Bible
TBP video	Literary Styles
TBP video	The Gospel (How to read biblical narrative)
TBP video	The Parables of Jesus (How to read biblical narrative)
TBP video	New Testament (overview)

Media type	Name
TBP video	<u>Angels & Cherubim</u>
TBP video	<u>Luke 1-9 (overview)</u>
Reading	Luke 1-2
TBP video	<u>The Birth of Jesus: Luke 1-2</u>
Reading	Luke 3-9
TBP video	<u>The Baptism of Jesus: Luke 3-9</u>
Reading	Ways to think about miracles in an age of “Science”: <u>Does modern science make miracles impossible? (BioLogos)</u>
Reading	Ways to think about miracles in an age of “Science”: <u>“Can a scientist believe in miracles?” Ruth Bancewicz.</u>
TBP video	<u>Luke 10-24 (overview)</u>
Reading	Luke 10-19a
TBP video	<u>The Prodigal Son: Luke 9-19</u>
Reading	Luke 19b-24
TBP video	<u>The Crucifixion of Jesus: Luke 19-23</u>
Reading	<u>When was Jesus crucified? A scientific perspective from Colin J. Humphreys & W. G. Waddington (1992).</u>
TBP video	<u>The Resurrection of Jesus: Luke 24</u>
TBP video	<u>Acts 1-12 (overview)</u>
Reading	Acts 1-7
TBP video	<u>Pentecost: Acts 1-7</u>
Reading	Acts 8-12
TBP video	<u>The Apostle Paul: Acts 8-12</u>
TBP video	<u>Acts 13-28</u>
Reading	Acts 13-20
TBP video	<u>Paul’s Missionary Journeys: Acts 13-20</u>
Reading	Acts 21-28
TBP video	<u>Bound for Rome: Acts 21-28</u>

Media type	Name
TBP video	New Testament Letters: Historical Context (How to read biblical prose discourse)
TBP video	New Testament Letters: Literary Context (How to read biblical prose discourse)
TBP video	Romans 1-4 (overview)
Reading	Romans 1-4
TBP video	Romans 5-16 (overview)
Reading	Romans 5-8
Reading	How can one reconcile the historicity of Adam with human evolution? Kathryn Applegate's perspective.
Reading	Romans 9-11
Reading	Romans 12-16
TBP video	Ancient Jewish Meditation Literature
TBP video	Plot (How to read biblical narrative)
TBP video	Character (How to read biblical narrative)
TBP video	Setting (How to read biblical narrative)
TBP video	Design Patterns (How to read biblical narrative)
TBP video	TaNaK/Old Testament
TBP video	Genesis 1-11 (overview)
Reading	Genesis 1-3
Reading	Perspectives on the Creation accounts: How Did the World Begin? John Walton.
TBP video	Genesis 1 (visual commentary)
Reading	Perspectives on the Creation accounts: What is the Relationship Between Genesis 1 & 2? J. Richard Middleton
Reading	Perspectives on the Creation accounts: Genesis 1 through the Eyes of a Rabbi. Geoff Mitelman
Reading	Genesis 4-11
Reading	Perspectives on long life spans and genealogies in Genesis. J. Richard Middleton, part 1
Reading	Perspectives on long life spans and genealogies in Genesis. J. Richard Middleton, part 2

Media type	Name
TBP video	<u>Genesis 12-50 (overview)</u>
Reading	Genesis 12-17
TBP video	<u>The Angel of the Lord</u>
Reading	Genesis 18-32
TBP video	<u>Abraham & Melchizedek</u>
Reading	Genesis 33-40
Reading	Another perspective on long life spans and genealogies in Genesis. <u>Carol Hill</u> .
Reading	Genesis 41-50
TBP video	<u>Genesis 1-11 (Torah Series)</u>
TBP video	<u>Genesis 12-50 (Torah Series)</u>
TBP video	<u>Proverbs (overview)</u>
Reading	Proverbs 1-9
TBP video	<u>Proverbs 8</u>
TBP video	<u>Poetry (How to read biblical poetry series)</u>
TBP video	<u>Poetic Metaphor (How to read biblical poetry series)</u>
TBP video	<u>The Books of Solomon (How to read biblical poetry series)</u>
TBP video	<u>Ecclesiastes (overview)</u>
Reading	Ecclesiastes
TBP video	<u>Ecclesiastes (Wisdom series)</u>
TBP video	<u>John 1-12 (overview)</u>
Reading	John 1-4
TBP video	<u>John 1 (Creation series)</u>
Reading	John 5-10
Reading	John 11-12
TBP video	<u>John 13-21 (overview)</u>
Reading	John 13-17
Reading	John 18-21

Media type	Name
TBP video	<u>Eternal Life</u>
TBP video	<u>The Book of Psalms (How to read poetry series)</u>
Reading	Psalms 1-2
TBP video	<u>Psalms 1 (visual commentary)</u>
TBP video	<u>Philippians (overview)</u>
Reading	Philippians
TBP video	<u>Psalms (overview)</u>
Reading	Psalms 3-14
TBP video	<u>Psalms 8</u>
TBP video	<u>Daniel (overview)</u>
Reading	Daniel 1-6
TBP video	<u>The Way of the Exile</u>
Reading	Psalms 15-19
TBP video	<u>James (overview)</u>
Reading	James
TBP video	<u>The Test</u>
TBP video	<u>Ephesians (overview)</u>
Reading	Ephesians 1-3
Reading	Ephesians 4-6
Reading	How has monogamy replaced polygamy as “normal” in humans? <u>Henrich, Boyd, & Richerson (2012).</u>
Reading	<u>Why Did God Allow Polygamy? Sam Emadi.</u>
Reading	Psalms 20-24
TBP video	<u>Avon - Iniquity (Bad words series)</u>
Reading	Psalms 25-41
TBP video	<u>Shema/Listen (The Shema series)</u>