



Bible 30 Challenge

We are starting an Amp HS-specific Bible reading plan for you to do on your own or with friends starting 4/1 and ending 4/30 that will study one book of the Bible every day for 30 days.

The format is simple: Use a physical Bible to read and reflect on one chapter of Luke every day during the month of April.

Basic Principles to Get the Most Out of Reading

1. Read to understand, not just read
 - a. How many times have you read the Bible and not understood what is going on? For many of us, it is every time. This is because understanding the Bible is a learned and practiced skill that takes sharpening. The more you apply certain reading principles, ask the Holy Spirit to lead you, and practice actually reading, the more you will understand.
 - b. This challenge is aimed around studying it, not just reading. You will need to spend around 30 minutes a day to study the day's chapter.
 - c. The key principle with reading to understand is to not move on from a section until you get it. To do this:
 - i. Read through your day's section two to three times, then try to recite it from memory in your own words.
 1. This helps you remember and begin comprehending what you read.
 - ii. When you come across words/names you don't know or are unsure of their reference- look them up.
 1. You can google them, use the commentary of a study bible (ESV Student Study Bible or ESV Bible mobile app) to have someone explain it a little better, and/or use the references cited by superscript letters and numbers.
 - iii. Look for key verses
 1. Key verses summarize major sections of the chapter. They are like a thesis to a paper and exist all throughout the Bible.
 - iv. Rephrase passages in your own words
 1. You can use a journal or write in the margins to write out a verse or idea in your own words. This helps with comprehension and application.
2. Ask yourself questions about the scripture
 - a. Ask, "How does this apply to people today?"
 - b. Ask, "What does this say about God's character?"
 - c. Ask, "How does this relate to the big story of scripture- Jesus' Gospel?"
 - d. Ask, "What is God saying to me through this? How can I obey that?"
 - e. There are many others you can ask but try these three out for now.
3. Pray/meditate

- a. Talk to God about these verses. Ask Him to help you understand and live them.
- b. Use the ACTS method to structure your prayers.
 - i. Adoration
 1. Adore God's characteristics and actions by praising Him for them.
 - ii. Confession
 1. Share with Him the gritty detail of the sinful actions and attitudes you have had recently.
 - iii. Thanksgiving
 1. Thank Him for specific things in your life and the world.
 - iv. Supplication
 1. Ask God to supply for needs in your own life, others, and around the world.

Book to read: The Gospel of Luke

Even if you have read Luke before, studying it is a lifelong journey. It contains a full history of the most important person to ever live and will be the one you can talk about with your small group. If you want to read another book, try waiting until May or read it alongside Luke.

- 1) Use a physical Bible
 - a. Preferably a study Bible. A study Bible has notes on the bottom half of the page that help the reader understand the text itself. When starting out with reading the Bible, these notes can be immensely helpful.
- 2) Read it in whatever version works best for you
 - a. A quick version guide:
 - i. CEV- Easiest to understand. Better suited for those who struggle with English.
 - ii. NIV- Easier to understand. Not as rich in language as ESV.
 - iii. ESV- A good middle ground, but still hard to understand phrasing at times.
 - iv. NASB- Technically very accurate, but hard to understand.

Reading Schedule

For each date of April, starting on April 1st, read one chapter of Luke.

There are only 24 chapters so either you will finish early in the month or you can have a few skip days if needed. If you finish early, consider using the extra days to memorize some verses that spoke to you during the 24 days.