

East Hills Community Church 2020 Weekly Bible Reading

January		
1-4	Genesis 1-10; Matthew 1-3	
5-11	Genesis 11-25; Matthew 4-7	
12-18	Genesis 26-50; Matthew 8-15	
19-25	Exodus 1-14; Matthew 16-19	
26-Feb 1	Exodus 15-27; Matthew 20-24	
February		
2-8	Exodus 28-40; Matthew 25-28	
9-15	Leviticus 1-14; Mark 1-3	
16-22	Leviticus 15-27; Mark 4-6	
23-29	Numbers 1-17; Mark 7-9	
March		
1- 7	Numbers 18-36; Mark 10-13	
8-14	Deuteronomy 1-19; Mark 14-16	
15-21	Deuteronomy 20-34; Luke 1-2	
22-28	Joshua; Luke 3-6	
29-April 4	Judges; Luke 7-10	
April		
5-11	Ruth-1 Samuel 1-10; Luke 11-13	
12-18	1 Samuel 11-31; Luke 14-17	
19-25	2 Samuel 1-14; Luke 18-21	
26-May 2	2 Samuel 15-24; Luke 22-24	
May		
3-9	1 Kings; John 1-3	
10-16	2 Kings; John 4-7	
17-23	1 Chronicles 1-15; John 8-10	
24-30	1 Chronicles 16-29; John 11-14	
31- June 6	2 Chronicles 1-18; John 15-18	
June		
7-13	2 Chronicles 19-36; John 19-21	
14-20	Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther; Acts 1-7	
21-27	Job 1-21; Acts 8-13	
28-July 4	Job 22-42; Acts 14-22	
July		
5-11	Psalms 1-25; Acts 23-28	
12-18	Psalms 26-51; Romans 1-3	
19-25	Psalms 52-75; Romans 4-6	
26-Aug 1	Psalms 76-91; Romans 7-9	
August		
2-8	Psalms 92-125; Romans 10-12	
9-15	Psalms 126-150; Romans 13-16	
16-22	Proverbs 1-10; 1 Corinthians 1-6	
23-29	Proverbs 11-21; 1 Corinthians 7-11	
30-Sept 5	Proverbs 22-31; 1 Corinthians 12-16	
September		
6-12	Ecclesiastes; 2 Corinthians 1-4	
13-19	Song of Solomon; 2 Corinthians 5-9	
20-26	Isaiah 1-23; 2 Corinthians 10-13	
27-Oct 3	Isaiah 24-45; Galatians, Ephesians	
October		
4-10	Isaiah 46-66; Philippians, Colossians	
11-17	Jeremiah 1-26; 1 Thessalonians	
18-24	Jeremiah 27-52; 2 Thessalonians	
25-31	Lamentations; 1 Timothy	
November		
1-7	Ezekiel 1-12; 2 Timothy	
8-14	Ezekiel 12-25; Titus; Philemon	
15-21	Ezekiel 26-36; Hebrews	
22-28	Ezekiel 37-28; James	
29-Dec 5	Daniel; 1 Peter	
December		
6-12	Hosea-Joel; 2 Peter	
13-19	Amos-Jonah; 1-3 John; Jude	
20-26	Micah-Zephaniah; Revelation 1-11	
27-31	Haggai-Malachi; Revelation 12-22	

1. Daily Bible reading will connect you with God's thoughts. In Psalm 42:2, the Psalmist was thirsting for the presence of God and then he asked said: *"When can I go and meet with God?"* The answer is anytime that you read His book. Reading the Bible is a personal experience where God will meet you and give you His view of everything. The Holy Spirit that inspired these 40 authors to write God's Word is the same Holy Spirit that will speak to you as you read. If you will move beyond the information to the application, you will find God's voice telling you about His love, His grace, and His will. The more you read the Bible the closer you get to God. As you read. He will surround you with encouragement, guidance, and strength. There is no other book in the world where the author is present with you every time you read his writings. So, start the New Year right! Read the Bible every day!

2. Daily Bible reading will fortify your spiritual life. Reading the Bible every day will give you daily dose of the limitless grace of God and the countless ways God's love is expressed. When you systematically read through the Bible, get the historical context, and then begin to meditate on what the ramifications are for your life, your life with change. Reading the Bible is like eating food. If you do it habitually, you will acquire a taste for it. Soon, you will crave it. It will nourish your soul each day. Soon, you will have an oversupply that you can store in your memory banks for times in the future when hardship, grief, disease, temptation, loneliness, fear or even death might come.

3. Daily Bible reading will give you wisdom. Do you ever watch American Funniest Home Videos? People do stupid things. I know because I have and still do foolish things. So I need a life-coach! I don't need Oprah, Chopra, or soap operas to show me the path of life. I need God. Psalm 16:11 says: *"You have made known to me the path of life; You will fill me with joy in Your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand."*

Why consult the world's self-help people, when you can have God's help? Each day you can sit down with the God of the Universe and He will tell you how to order your life, choose your priorities, fix your life, handle difficult people, resist temptation, run your marriage, rear your kids, deal with hard things, live with joy, and find His richest blessings. Reading the Bible will give you wisdom beyond your years.

4. Daily Bible reading will deepen your understanding of Scripture. Daily Bible reading deepens us and our knowledge of the Bible and teaches us accurate theology. The danger of picking and choosing books is that you become the editor of what you want to read. But when you read the whole counsel of God, it will keep you from the abuses of the extremes and the dangers of a defective view of God. To get a full view of God, we must see God in creation, in the law, in the exodus, in the prophets, in the Psalms, in the captivities, in the teaching of Jesus, in the Pauline teaching of salvation by grace through faith, and in the Revelation of John that tells us of the Christ's return. To have a complete vision of God you need to read the whole Bible! You will see how God operates so that you can live God's way.

5. Daily Bible reading will show you how to be a better Christian. When you read the Bible every day, you will see how other God-followers worshipped God, praised God, complained to God, got frustrated with God, struggled with His Lordship, returned to God from sin, and so much more. Daily Bible reading will give you specific commands, clear advice, and the rudiments of a close walk with God. You need to read the Bible to grow in the Lord!

6. Daily Bible reading will know God's peace. Life gets crazy. People do mean things. The world is in chaos. If you rush into your day without God's peace in your heart, all the commotion will flood your heart and mind. Reading the Bible each day will give you an inner calm and a spiritual serenity. You will see your problems through the experiences of Abraham, Joseph, Moses, David, and so many others. They will remind you that God will provide, guide, rescue, support, and bless you too. Reading about these heroes will show you how to handle life when it gets crazy. Your daily Bible reading will give you daily reminders of the sovereignty of God and that will give you peace.

7. Daily Bible reading will keep you from temptation. There are so many ways that temptation can snare you. Pride, power, and materialism are huge. Of course, excesses in food, addictions to the various vices, and the misuse of our sexuality are big tempters. Regardless of what your besetting temptations are, the main weapon to resist Satan is the Bible. That's what our Lord did. In Matthew 4, Jesus was tempted by Satan. Three times Satan twisted Scripture to try to get

Jesus off track. Three times Jesus refused Satan's temptation with the words "*it is written*" (Matthew 4:4, 7, 10). If Satan tempted Jesus, he will tempt you! If Jesus knew Scripture, so should you. If Jesus quoted Scripture, so should you. If Jesus resisted temptation, so can you! So read the Bible every day to resist temptation.

Being able to see the pitfalls of Bible characters that were tempted and fell will help you learn from their mistakes. To see the triumphs of Bible heroes helps me learn to resist temptation. Ephesians (6:17) tells us to fight spiritual warfare with "*the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.*" To fight temptation, you need to be in the Bible every day!

8. Daily Bible reading will encourage your heart.

Mary Lincoln's dressmaker told of seeing the president drag himself into the room where she was fitting his wife for a dress. His step was slow and heavy. His face was sad. President Lincoln had just received a bleak report from the War Department. While waiting for his wife, Mr. Lincoln picked up a small Bible from a stand near the sofa and started reading. After 15 minutes, when the dressmaker looked at Lincoln, his face had brightened. She said. "*The face of the president seemed more cheerful and the dejected look was gone. His countenance was changed with resolution and hope.*" Wanting to see what he was reading, she pretended to drop something and peeked over his shoulder. She saw he had been reading the book of Job.

Folks, everybody gets discouraged. People, problems, and pressure can get the best of even the strongest of Christians. So read the Bible and God will lift your spirits!

8. Daily Bible reading will help you start your day.

For me, the best time for reading the Bible is the first thing in the morning. Our house and our neighborhood are quiet. I have not heard the latest news about the world of politics, folly, and evils. Filling my mind with God and a stiff cup of coffee prepares me for the day. I try to take a few moments to reflect and meditate on what God said to me through my reading that day. That's when I write in my journal and write my thoughts about the passage on Facebook to my friends.

9. Daily Bible reading will help find solitude. Most days, I play soft praise songs and hymns while I shower, shave, and eat my oatmeal. I may make a few more notes in my journal about some more things God may have said to me through the Scripture that day. By the time I am ready to go out my door, I have God's power, God's strength, and God's mind to face whatever the day gives me. Time alone with God in Bible reading will empower to spend your day in the world!

10. Daily Bible reading with help you get your life together. As I come to the end of this year, I find myself remembering several friends who have died this year. Their passing reminds me that I will be dead in the next 30 years or less. All of us will be dead in the next 100 years or so. Nobody comes to the end of their life wishing they had made more money, drank more, slept more, watched more television, or ate more. But I assure you that you will not regret the time you spent in the Bible.

So, make the Bible your lifelong friend. Invest time in its study. Build it into your life and daily routine. Let's God's Word shape you and mold you into the person He wants you to be.

Folks, it is not that hard to read the Bible through in a year. Although I have had a busy life, reading though the Bible has enhance my life. It takes me about a half-hour a day, which is the length of the nightly news. You can easily read the Bible in a year. There are 1,189 chapters in the Bible. If you read four chapters of the Bible every day starting January 1, you will read the entire Bible by December 31. If I can do it, you can too.