

“There’s nothing like the written word of God for showing you the way to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another — showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God’s way. Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us.”

2 Timothy 3:14-17 *The Message Bible*

Why read the Bible from cover to cover?  
Why read it in 90 days?

Because...

- We encounter the very breath of God on every page.
- We are led into the saving arms of Jesus.
- We are being equipped for the tasks at hand.
- We are being empowered to serve others.
- By reading the Bible in 90 days we receive a unique birdseye view of the Bible we don’t ordinarily get — and we can accomplish what for many is a lifelong goal: to actually read the Bible cover to cover.

Revisit these realities often over the next 90 days to remind yourself just why you are doing this! This week launch out into the first week of 13 week journey through the Bible, reading through the first two books of the Bible: Genesis and Exodus. Here’s a brief summary of each book:

### Genesis

The book of beginnings — ultimately the historical foundation of the rest of the Bible. Chapters 1-11 take us through four key events — creation, the fall, the flood, and the tower of Babel. Chapters 12-50 introduce us to four key people — Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph — all members of one very human family through whom God determines to bring his blessing to the world. Genesis begins in paradise and ends in a coffin.

### Exodus

Abraham’s descendents settle in Egypt and have a population explosion. A fearful government enslaves and oppresses them. Centuries pass, and then God sends a deliverer to bring them out of bondage and into the fulfillment of his promises to Abraham. Through ten mighty plagues, Egypt’s grip is broken. After passing through the Red Sea the new nation of Israel is led to a dramatic meeting with the great “I AM” at Mount Sinai where he enters into covenant relationship with them.

Day	Start	End	✓
1	Genesis 1:1	Genesis 16:16	___
2	Genesis 17:1	Genesis 28:19	___
3	Genesis 28:20	Genesis 40:11	___
4	Genesis 40:12	Genesis 50:26	___
5	Exodus 1:1	Exodus 15:18	___
6	Exodus 15:19	Exodus 28:43	___
7	Exodus 29:1	Exodus 40:38	___

### Did you know...

#### Testament/Covenant

A quick glance at the Bible shows that it is divided into two parts — the Old Testament and the New Testament. A testament is an authoritative disposition of goods and/or services which can be accepted or rejected, but never altered. “Covenant” is related to the word “convene” and refers to a “meeting of the minds” and wills of two parties. The Bible is the story of two covenants and a promise: the promise to Abraham “that all nations would be blessed through his offspring,” the covenant of Moses that pointed forward to that promised offspring, and the covenant of Jesus in which the promise is kept.

#### Torah

The Jewish word for “law.” In Jewish circles, the first five books of the Bible are called the “Torah.”

#### Pentateuch

Literally, the “five books.” The Greek title of the first five books of the Bible — all believed authored by Moses.

#### Tabernacle

Fancy word for “tent.” A key part of what Moses was given on Mt. Sinai was instructions for making a “tent of meeting” — a place where God could meet with Moses, talking with him “face to face as a man talks to his friend.” The “tent of meeting” was intended to be the center of Israelite culture and community — and it was for the next 300 years until Solomon built the Temple in Jerusalem modeled after it.

## The Bible in 90 Days Frequently Asked Questions

### Should I do anything before I start reading each day?

It's always a good plan to begin with prayer when you pick up the Bible. Call on God for insight, for sensitivity to his Spirit, for focus upon his will and direction. "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening..."

### How much should I read each day?

If you own Zondervan's The Bible in 90 Days version (available in our bookstore) then each day's reading is marked in the Bible — and it's 12 pages a day. A schedule is available if you are just using your own Bible — depending on the version you are reading, it may be more than 12 pages (particularly if you're using a study Bible with lots of notes, or a more lengthy modern translation or paraphrase like the Message).

### When should I read?

Whenever it works for you! First thing in the morning, last thing at night, during your lunch hour, or all of the above. If you haven't been spending 30-45 minutes a day in Bible reading up to this point, be flexible and try some different approaches. Ask the Father to help you find the right rhythm — remember, his desire to meet you in this devotional and reading time is greater than yours!

### What if I get behind?

One of the best ways to avoid getting behind is to stay ahead. There will be times that the reading is flowing and you have more time — so go for it and grab a few more pages! It will help balance out those days when life happens and you are crunched for time. Take your Bible with you so you can read it during idle moments of the day, or listen to it on tape or CD during your commute. Another idea is to set aside a large block of time (a few hours) on a day off or on a weekend to plow through several day's readings. If you do fall behind, don't try to get caught up by skipping pages (not even the genealogies!). Just pick up a few extras pages each day until you are caught up.

### Reading Tips

- Memorize your mission, which is: *to read, attentively, every word of the Bible in 90 days.*
- Don't expect to consciously recall everything you read. Focus on what you *can* recall and *don't worry about the rest.*
- Don't expect to understand everything you read. Pay attention to what you *do* understand and *don't worry about the rest.*
- Consider breaking up your daily reading into two or more sessions.

## Personal Reading Notes



Use this space to record the highlights — insights, observations, puzzling questions, "aha moments" — you experience during this week's reading: