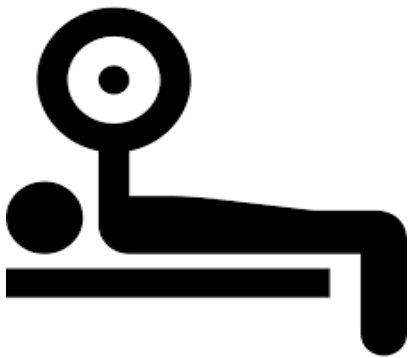


My Bible Workout Book



(Please read the first pages before beginning your listening journey.)

Volume 1 .

Welcome

God is waiting to speak to you. He loves you and wants to grow His relationship with you.

This Bible Workout Planner provides a brief synopsis of what you are about to hear as you enter each book or letter of The Bible. No message or teaching is intended with this Workout book. The book is intended to help you stay focused and track the progress of your journey through The Bible. Read the synopsis to gain a light familiarity with the setting. Hopefully this will make it easier to listen, understand and to hear God speak to you through His story.

If you are using CDs, check off the discs as you go. I have included disc numbers based on the NIV Bible produced by Zondervan. Whether you use discs or not the information gives you an idea of the length of each book/letter. Track your progress! If you are using a live feed, check off the books as you progress. The journey through The Bible can be tough. Acknowledge your efforts and success as you progress! You deserve it. Pray! Enjoy growing your relationship with your Creator.

I have listed to the book numerous times. In doing so I have yet to find anywhere that it is said, “he who has eyes to see; read, decipher, interpret, decide which parts you agree with and discard those that you don’t. Skip around section by section based on phrases and stories and tie together sporadic excerpts to make the points that best satisfy your needs.” No, what was clear was this: “He who has ears to hear, let him hear”. Personally, I believe God will take it from there.

Listen. Listen to the words. Listen to God! If your mind drifts, don’t feel bad. It happens to all of us. The text is not easy. It will take time. Rewind when your mind wanders. Don’t feel bad, rewind 2, 3 or 4 times. I’ve done it myself many times.

May God bless you with His message!

Make sure that you hear, and understood what you hear. This is the deepest, and one of the longest books in history. Expect that your journey through The Bible will take about year. If you are able to make it through sooner, that's wonderful too, but its not a race.

As you listen, listen for God. You will do yourself a disservice and not be respectful of God if you listen intently to hear: "I knew that was here. I was right!" -OR- "I was taught a meaning that I now believe, so I already know the meaning." -OR- Worse; "I knew I was right and he/she was wrong. Now I'm going to go remind him/her."

This is God's book. Listen with an open, loving, eager mind and heart.

For those of you who are Christians, remember what you believe.

- Do you believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?
- Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His son?
- Do you believe that he died, rose, ascended to heaven and will return
- Do you believe that The Bible is Divinely inspired and guided by God?

If you answered "yes" to all of these questions, think about what you have said. God created you. Jesus saved you. And they have provided this book to communicate with you. What in your life can be more important than listening to this book, start to finish in the order that was Divinely intended. God the Father CREATED you! Jesus DIED for you!

For those that answered "no" to the questions, please listen. Hear the story. Think about the message that comes from He who provided the content. The book is a very, very long journey. It is not an easy trek, but you can expect that you will have your answer. The only communication possible will be directly between you and God.

Whichever answer you gave, you are about to embark on THE journey of your life!

Our generation is amongst the most blessed since we have the opportunity to easily access the materials to listen to God's words.

Don't miss the forest despite the trees



If you stare too heavily on the bark of a single trunk you may miss the beauty of the forest.



As you listen to the stories of The Bible, keep in mind that the book is God's story. The individual happenings build to God's greater message.

So the reason for putting together this Bible Workout Book? It is to help each individual accomplish this most important journey of Listening to God's message. My background and experience provide you these thoughts for consideration as you begin your journey through The Bible :

- Deciphering is too difficult and often loses the intended meaning of the author. Select a version of the Bible that you can understand.
 - It is best to get the meaning directly from the author. Listen for God.
 - You must understand the beginning for the rest to be properly in perspective. Take your time in Genesis. Since the other books tie back to it return to it as needed.
 - Listen in the order that was intended, and consider the book as a whole.
 - Keep your mind open and do not make assumptions while you are midway through the journey.
-

- Listen for God's story. The stories of each book highlight God's story. Although each story is a story within itself, the true message of God comes as you hear how each of these tales are connected through His activities and influence. Each builds upon one another and each actually ties directly to the fulfillment, which is God taking on Human form and living amongst us as Jesus Christ. Jesus saves each of us as individuals from sin. He will then present each of us to return to the Father in the eternal form in which Adam was originally created, and intended to live eternally with God the Father. Over focusing on the individual stories within the books and evaluating each statement may lead to judging others and lead to hypocrisy.
- The value is as much about the journey as reaching the end. Don't forget to pray as you progress.
- To believe that you can decipher and fully know or understand God's message to any other individual is arrogance that no one can afford. You will hear Paul discuss this in his writings.
- God is your creator. His message will help you deal with your time in the human condition.
- If you want to get the most from life, read the user manual; The Bible, the Word of God.
- God has provided His message to build a direct relationship with you. Do not allow any individual to come between you and God. This includes friends, family members, clergy, politicians, celebrities, authors, acquaintances or any individual trying to wedge their opinion between you and God. No matter how good the intention your relationship with God is one-to-one and will be throughout eternity. God in Jesus Christ will provide The Way.
- All believers wish you the ears to hear and the soft heart to receive God's word.

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2 Kings	20-22			Romans	10-11 / 58-59		
1 Chronicles	22-23			1 st Corinthians	11 / 59		
2 Chronicles	24-25			2 nd Corinthians	11-12 / 59-60		
Ezra	25-26			Galatians	12 / 60		
Nehemiah	26-27			Ephesians	12-13 / 60-61		
Esther	27			Philippians	13 / 61		
Job	27-29			Colossians	13 / 61		
Psalms	29-33			1 st Thessalonians	13 / 61		
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Ecclesiastes	34			1 st Timothy	13 / 61		
Song of Solomon	35			2 nd Timothy	14 / 62		
Isaiah	35-38			Titus	14 / 62		
Jeremiah	38-41			Philemon	14 / 62		
Lamentations	41			Hebrews	14 / 62		
Ezekiel	41-45			James	14-15 / 62-63		
Daniel	45-46			1 st Peter	15 / 63		
Hosea	46			2 nd Peter	15 / 63		
Joel	46			1 st John	15 / 63		
Amos	46			2 nd John	15 / 63		
Obadiah	47			3 rd John	15 / 63		
Jonah	47			Jude	15 / 63		
Micah	47			Revelation	15-16 / 63-64		

The Jewish Bible / The Old Testament

This arrangement of books being canonized between 140-40 B.C.

There are thirty-nine books in the Old Testament. Genesis tells of God's creation including people. It details the fall of man and their separation from God. As the story continues God chooses His people and follows the line as it grows, multiplies and becomes the nation of Israel. Throughout His story you will hear God's voice, love and commitment to His people. In book after book stories are told of people remaining faithful and people losing faith and betraying God.

God's eternal plan for His creation is revealed and the future of a Messiah is established.

For Christians, realize that this is the book that Jesus learned while He was young. This is the book that He taught in the synagogue. This book was the basis for Jesus' life as a Jewish man, and this is the covenant, book and law that Jesus came to fulfill.

Genesis

- *Traditions says it is written by: Moses as directed by God. Some modern theologians have traced the documentation to Ezra having written down the text during the estimated 450-500 B.C. timeframe.*
- *Time Frame: Moses is estimated to be born in 1592-1571 BC. Ezra was estimated to be born 480 BC.*
- *Genesis is the foundation of the entire bible, Old Testament and the New. it is a sizeable book. Genesis means Beginnings.*
- *You will hear the beginnings of the world, of God creating everything, His world, His people, the family and even sin.*
- *Genesis tells the story not only of God's creation, but also His purpose and plan for His creation.*
- *Listen to God the Father interacting with all that He made.*
- *Abraham begins the people that will become Israel. This is the nation of God's chosen people. The Jewish people.*
- *Listen to the words as they are written and read. Listen for what they say. Do not reorder or change them based on your past understandings. Let God speak to you.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: Notice that although the text is written in third person, God Himself is the source of the information. Listen as He speaks to you.

Note that man was made in God's image. Man then fell from grace and was separated from God. God did not fail nor fall. Should you assume that God is the image that you see in the mirror in the morning? If God is not created in the image of man as we live today, is there a way to return to position with God that Adam once experienced?

As you hear the ancestry lists, keep in mind the details of daily life that you experience. Listen to the names at a regular pace. Realize that each of the names represents a generation full of life, full of the daily work, challenges and celebrations, just as they do during our times.

Though each person experiences a lifeline, realize that the Bible is God's story. Enjoy as you hear the story of your Creator and the order of His creation.

Notes:

Complete

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Congratulations! You have completed Genesis.
That is no small accomplishment.

Great Job!

Keep Genesis in mind as you read each book of the Bible.

Think of how the messages of the other books tie back to Genesis and God, His original creation and His message to you.

Keep focused on the message from God the Father.
Follow The Light!

Exodus

Tradition says this is written by: Moses from firsthand experience. As with Genesis today's theologians believe to have traced the documentation to Ezra and credit him with the recording that has been mass produced.

Time Frame: Immediately following Genesis

- *The story of Genesis continues in Exodus. The subject transitions from creation to focus on Abraham's descendants.*
- *Abraham's descendants become known as the Hebrews, Jews and the people and nation of Israel.*
- *When Genesis ends, Abraham's descendent Jacob and 70 of his descendants go into Egypt to live.*
- *Now in the book of Exodus, Jacob's family has grown from 70 to about 2 million people.*
- *As this book begins, Israel has given itself into slavery to Egypt.*
- *Exodus tells the story of God using Moses to lead His people.*
- *God, through Moses, led them out of Egypt and gave them their laws at Mount Sinai, including the 10 Commandments.*
- *God outlines the building of the temple and the ark of the covenant where the laws would be stored. The temple was the mobile center for worship to God.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: Listen for God's view as a Father as you consider the story.

Notes:

Complete



Leviticus

Tradition says it is written by: Moses from firsthand experience. As with Genesis and Exodus today's theologians believe to have traced the documentation to Ezra, and credit him with documenting the story as it has been mass produced.

Time Frame: Immediately following Exodus

- *God has rescued Israel from being slaves in Egypt.*
- *Now a people amongst themselves, Leviticus outlines how to live with God and acts as the manual for holy living as God's chosen people of Israel. This was a different life from that being practiced by the other people of the earth.*
- *He gives them the instructions for building the portable temple, then explains how to approach Him and His temple.*
- *The consequences of sin are explained.*
- *This book outlines the many required sacrifices to God for the forgiveness of sin. It shows that we cannot obtain salvation without it coming from God.*



Keeping focused on God's voice: Think about the fatherly tone. Is it demanding, or perhaps guiding? Does it explain how His creation is meant to work for the individuals and community? God speaks to you through the Bible. Consider His point of view as you hear Him speak.

Notes:

Complete



Numbers

Tradition says it is written by: Moses from firsthand experience. As with Genesis, Exodus and Leviticus today's theologians believe to have traced the documentation to Ezra, and credit him with the recording that has been mass produced.

Written around: Some estimate the writing as 1450 - 1410 BC. The context follows Exodus.

- *Numbers is a book of regret.*
- *Numbers tells the story of the people of Israel coming out of Egypt and their journey to the edge of the promise land. Once on the east side of the Jordan River, across from Jericho God tests their faithfulness. The people rebel. God punishes the people, sending them into the desert for the next 38 years.*
- *These 38 years allow an entire generation to die off before God delivers the promise land to His people.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: Consider time, people, and God's view of the situation as the Father and Creator of mankind.

Notes:

Complete



Deuteronomy

Tradition says the content is written by: Moses from firsthand experience. As with Genesis, Exodus and Leviticus, today's theologians believe to have traced the documentation to Ezra, and credit him with the recording that has been mass produced.
Time: 1410 - 1405 BC

- *The generation that came out of Sinai and wondered through the desert are now ready to enter the promise land.*
- *The story of the beginnings of the people of Israel is recorded 3 times in this book. It is believed that these three writings were delivered at different times for different audiences.*
- *Moses reminds the people that God has a special relationship with them, if they would simply obey.*
- *He also warned that if they are not obedient to God they will be punished.*



Keeping focused on God's voice: Although this book is written in first person by Moses and restates his activities with the people of Israel, keep in mind that this writing is divinely touched by God. Contemplate the fact that God the Father, the Creator whose story begun in Genesis has blessed this book. It's with God's blessing that these specific books were brought into the Bible, including the order that they were inserted. You have heard these first few books. Each book yet to be heard is very important, not only on its own but to God's story being communicated in the complete Bible.

Notes:

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Torah / Pentateuch

You have now made it through the books that comprise The Jewish Torah, also referred to as The Pentateuch by Christians. Take time to contemplate what God has said through the 5 books combined as a single message. Consider how things started and how things stand as Moses passes and Israel enters the promise land.

This view is important. This is a blessed perspective where you may hear the message from God the Father, The Creator, that you may not have heard as you read the bible in the past.

Genesis: God creates the world, all that inhabit the world, including Man & Woman. He gives them the freedom to make their own choices and warns them not to eat from the tree of knowledge. They are tempted and chose to eat from the tree of knowledge against God's command. As a result God helps Man & Woman by separating them from him and makes them mortal.

God choses the Jewish people to guide and educate on how they should live to be close to Him. He also agrees to watch over them. He chooses Abraham to begin the people. Genesis begins the story of Abraham, his children and his decedents.

Exodus: As the story has provided examples of people obeying, disobeying, following and not following God, the effects of people's actions and God's continuous willingness to forgive and pursue his people, the story presents the path of the Jewish people as they enter into slavery in Egypt. After years of enslavement and brutal treatment God uses Moses to free the people from Egypt and send them on the path to their own land.

Leviticus: God provides the guidelines for the daily life that the Jewish people will lead once they reach the promise land.

Numbers: The people stray away from God once again. God eliminates the failed, rebellious generation of people before providing the promise land. The next Generation then enters the promise land.

Deuteronomy: Moses reviews the story through to their approach to the promise land and reminds the people of their special relationship with God.

Notes:

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Joshua

Written by: Joshua, the prophet and successor to Moses

Written around: After the fall of Jerusalem, which is estimated to have occurred in 586 BC.

- *The book of Joshua begins where Deuteronomy ends.*
- *With Moses having died, God commits to Joshua as he had to Moses and makes him the leader of Israel.*
- *God now grants the Promise Land to the people of Israel.*
- *This is the story of the people taking position of the land and Joshua leading the people.*
- *This book judges the sins of the non-believers and claims God to be the God over the entire Earth.*
- *The book continues God's promise to make a great nation out of the descendants of Abraham.*
- *Israel remained faithful to God during Joshua's lifetime.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: The book of Joshua is a wonderful place to acknowledge the value of hearing the Bible, in its entirety, as the Word of God. As you hear the story of Joshua and the Israelites this about this: Who is this story really about? The book tells the story of the Israelites, but the Bible is God's story. Notice that while this book provides many details about the people, this greater story is about how the Creator has enacted His creation, and how He interacts and loves the people that He created. These are the same chosen people of Exodus. These people however, are minor characters in perspective to the Creator of Genesis. Part of the message Joshua is the fact that God's ownership is of all other people on earth as well, the Gentiles.

Notes:

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Micah	47			Revelation	15-16 / 63-64		

Judges

Author: Samuel the Prophet

Time written: 1050 - 1000 BC

- *Judges were not law councilors or Kings as we know judges to be today. In this instance the “Judges” were military type leaders blessed by God to care for, and lead the nation of Israel as they defend themselves.*
- *These individuals are each raised into positions of leadership after Joshua’s death.*
- *During these times there was no central government. The people were to be led by God himself and the laws that He had provided.*
- *You will notice that as time passed the people would fail and give way to sin and idolatry.*
- *As they sinned they were often conquered by other lands. They would then pray to God for forgiveness and God would send a leader to deliver the people from their captors. Those sent were the Judges.*



Keeping focused on God’s voice: Thy will be done. Time and again, from Genesis through Judges, notice the people losing their way and leaving the ways that God had outlined. Notice the consistency of God’s trend in forgiving and protecting the people after they stray. As you try to consider God’s view, try to consider how you should emulate this with the patience and love for your fellow man.

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Ruth

Author: The Prophet Samuel

Time written: 1000 BC

- *This is an example of how God provides great goodness during terrible times and times of struggle.*
- *This is a bright love story that takes place during the times recorded in Judges, as the people of Israel were worshipping idols.*
- *Ruth is a young woman from Moab, a country just across the Jordan River from Israel.*
- *She marries Boaz and becomes the Great Grandmother of King David.*
- *Amongst all of the idol worship occurring in the culture of the day, Ruth remains loyal to our true God.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: God is the beginning and the end. He knows all happenings through time. He knows all people. He knows their hearts. Ruth's journey was not easy emotionally nor physically, but she remained loyal to God. God blessed Ruth, even to the point of being in the line of the great King David, and to the Messiah. Consider how powerful the fact is that God has oversight of you as well.

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1 Samuel

Written by: The prophet Samuel, as well as prophets Gad and Nathan

Written around: 540-630 B.C.

- *This book tells how God placed the first kings over Israel. The first was Saul, the second David.*
- *Initially God has structured His covenant with his people, Israel, based on a direct relationship with his people. As long as the people remained dedicated to God He provided generously for all of their needs.*
- *The people however, did not live up to God's plan and took comfort in more earthly structure. To this end they asked God for a human, earthly king, just as other non-God knowing nations had kings.*
- *The people hurt and insulted God by asking for a king to represent them, but God granted their wish.*
- *God used Samuel, the prophet to establish a kingship in Israel.*
- *Samuel tells the story of Israel's first king, Saul.*
- *Notice that the success of each king, did not rely on their position as king but upon their loyalty to God.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: How did these people become leaders? Who builds leaders? Consider the separation that happened as a result of the wish of the people. Think of God's intended order and intended relationship with His people, and His creation. God the Father provided us the freedom to make choices. Why? Keep in mind as you move forward with your journey through the Bible.

Notes:

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2 Samuel

Written by: The prophet Samuel as well as prophets Gad and Nathan

Written around: 630 – 540 B.C.

- *Second Samuel records the 40-year reign of King David.*
- *This books describes the growth and solidification of David's kingdom and Jerusalem becoming the capital city.*
- *This book contains one of the strongest lessons of the bible. Although David was "a man after God's own heart" and promised that his dynasty would rule forever, David sinned by committing adultery and then murder.*
- *God kept his promise regarding David's line.*
- *Although David repented, his life was troubled after his sin and until his death.*
- *God's patience, loyalty, generosity and love are shown in this book along with God's disappointment and pain.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: Consider David's sin. Consider the actions of the flesh as they relate to the feelings of the heart, and how they related to God the Father, the God who IS Love, in who's image Man was created. Think about sin, how it is defined by God, His gift expelling man from the garden of Eden, God providing us mortality and redemption.

Notes:

Complete



1 Kings

Written about Written by: Jeremiah the Prophet

Written around: 550 B.C.

- Follows the death of King David - covers about 125 years
- This book records the history of Israel's kings. These kings were descendants of David. First was David's son, King Solomon.
- This book highlights the fact that during this time the successes or struggles of the country were based heavily on the faithfulness or lack of faithfulness of each king.
- God split Israel into two territories; The Northern was Israel, the Southern was Judah, after Solomon's death. It was separated by civil war.
- 1st Kings tells the stories of the country while it is still united as a single Israel.



Keeping focused on God's voice: Consider the number of people living as this book lists through the times of each king, and yet only the king is named. Consider the request of the people to have a king rather than a direct care from God as had previously been the case. Then consider your relationship with your creator.

Notes:

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2 Kings

Written by: *The Prophet Jeremiah*

Written around: *550 B.C.*

- *Describes the loss of the promise land by God's people.*
- *Previously split into two lands, Jerusalem and Judah, both were now lost.*
- *The people had been constantly warned about obedience, but they had not listened. The Israelites were now marched into captivity by the Babylonians.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: Knowing the Bible as God's story, consider your own obedience against the trappings of today's culture. Pray often. Set aside time daily and speak to your creator. Consider His will and whether He controls your life or whether you ask Him to bend to accept your will.

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1 Chronicles

Written by: Ezra

Written around: 350 - 300 B.C.

- *Written for Jewish exiles who had returned to the promise land after being captives in Babylon.*
- *Now that they were allowed to return to the promise land and returned to obedience to God, Chronicles reminds them that they are God's chosen people.*
- *This book documents their genealogical lines all the way back to Adam.*
- *Chronicles documents that God's covenant was still alive.*



Keeping focused on God's voice: You are a child of God!

Notes:

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2 Chronicles

Written by: Ezra

Written around: 350-300 B.C.

- Continues the information started in 1st Chronicles with the Line of King David.
- 2 Chronicles begins with the reign of David's son, Solomon.
- The book focuses on the Southern kingdom, known as Israel, rather than Judah.
- This book tells the lineage of the kings and describes which kings followed God's laws and which did not.
- The people of Israel had been returned from captivity in Babylon. They had experienced life following God's will and experienced the consequences of not obeying God. They were now given the opportunity to once again follow God's will.



Keeping focused on God's voice: Notice Solomon's obedience to God and how God the Father rewards Solomon. Consider these actions by God. How different are the rewards and blessings provided by God from your current culture's definition of what you should and should not do? Notice how God measures righteousness with Solomon and David. Consider the differences between God's word and the values being impressed upon the society in which you live. Do you hear the sins as defined by God matching those defined by our society, or does our society impress ideas upon you to manipulate your actions and priorities? In the long run, which are more important, sins as defined by God, or sins as outlined by our culture?

Notes:

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Written by: Ezra, the priest

Written around: 450 - 444 BC

- *The book of Ezra tells of the Political reality of this time.*
- *Through Jeremiah God promised the Jews that they would be returned to the promised land after 70 years of captivity in Babylon.*
- *Babylon falls to Persia.*
- *The Persia then allowed the return of many Jews. God again fulfills His promise.*
- *Ezra also writes about the rebuilding of the temple that had been destroyed along with the city.*
- *They had been disciplined for not keeping God's laws. Ezra retaught God's laws.*
- *He reformed their religious life so that they could once again act as God's people.*
- *Remember God's purpose of His chosen people: They were intended to be an example to the people around them.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: Ezra tells God's wish that the Chosen People be an example for ALL people. Do you hear God speaking to you in this book? If you have ears but have not heard, please take the time to pray and listen again if necessary. Remember this message as you listen to the New Testament.

Notes:

Complete



Nehemiah

Written by: most likely by Nehemiah, the Governor of Judah

Written around: 445 - 425 BC.

- *Chronologically the last book of the Old Testament.*
- *Describes the 3rd return of exiles from Babylon/Persia.*
- *This book describes how the walls of the temple were rebuilt and the renewal of faith by the people of Israel.*
- *The next communication from God happens 400 years later when the Angel of God announced the birth of John the Baptist.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: Chronologically you can encapsulate the story of the people of Israel and the Old Testament. Consider this as it relates to God's story. Consider God's greater message of His creation of the Universe against His interaction with the individuals and the nations.

Notes:

Complete

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Esther

Written by: Unknown

Written around: While the Jews were living as exiles in Persia. The setting is 483-473 BC, in Persia.

- *The Jews are in captivity in Persia.*
- *This is a story of a beautiful Jewish girl who becomes queen of Persia, then risks her life for her people, the Jews.*
- *The story highlights the faith of Mordecai.*
- *The story is entrenched in politics, business and earthly life.*
- *God is caring for His people as they await return to the promise land.*



Keeping focused on God's voice: Listen to this story as it relates to daily life in your current culture and the politics of today.

Notes:

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Job

Written by: Perhaps Moses, but unknown.

Written around: Much debate exists over the book of Job. Some say it happened after Moses' time and the author is unknown. Others claim that it occurred before Moses and that Moses wrote the poem. (Estimated 700s B.C. – 400s B.C.)

- *If you think that you've had struggles, the book of Job will give you perspective and help you to count your blessings.*
- *This book raises the perplexing topic of human suffering.*

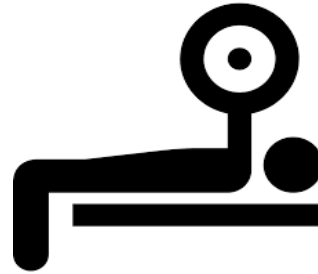
- *God allows Job's suffering for a greater purpose. Job however, does not know this fact.*

- *Job is a blameless man who loses his children and all that he has, and then suffers physically.*

- *Job's friends attempt to verbally comfort Job but do so without knowledge of the facts.*

- *Job defends his integrity.*

- *Finally, God speaks and reacts. It's incredibly powerful. You should definitely listen through the book as a whole.*



Keeping focused on God's voice: Think about how this book puts your life into perspective. Who gave you your life? Are the trials and tribulations of your life truly yours to deal with or are you simply experiencing the life given to you. Take comfort in having trust and faith in our Father who is the greatest and ultimate power, and His Son through whom you have access to God's eternity.

Notes:

Complete



TRACK YOUR PROGRESS!!!

Book	Disk(s)	Your Disk #	Day Finished	Book	Disk(s)	Your Disk #	Day Finished
Genesis	1-3			Nahum	47		
Exodus	4-6			Habakkuk	47		
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Micah	47			Revelation	15-16 / 63-64		

Psalms

Written by: Moses, King David about half,

Written around: Over time (1531 B.C. - 444 B.C.)

- *These are songs and poems and prayers to God.*
- *This is a long book to hear. Take your time. Listen to the prayer and the praise!*
- *These explain that the proper center of life is God.*
- *Included are prayers to God asking for help with earthly problems.*
- *Psalms provides insight to the thoughts of the major characters of the Bible as they live through the trials, tribulations and victories during the events of their lives. This includes events that we have heard in other books as well as events that we may not know.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: God understand the difficulties and celebrations of each person. Each person, whether wealthy or poor, old and young, experiences earthly celebrations and challenges. Life is a gift from God the Father.

Notes:

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Proverbs

Written by: Most by King Solomon

Written around: Roughly 970, BC

- *Do you pray for Wisdom? God has provided wisdom to you. Aside from the message of the Bible in its entirety, the book of Proverbs is pure wisdom as documented by King Solomon.*
- *All wisdom begins with the fear of the Lord.*
- *The wisdom provides help for daily life on earth, and for the interaction with others.*
- *You will find these teachings as useful and accurate today as they were in King Solomon's time.*
- *Some are humorous. Enjoy.*



Keeping focused on God's voice: God has provided a "How To" book for your life. Following it is your choice. He is perusing you for His loving, eternal relationship!

Notes:

Complete



Ecclesiastes

Written by: Believed to be written by Solomon

Written around: near the end of Solomon's life, near 935 BC

- *Ecclesiastes is believed to be Solomon's look back on his life.*
- *He reflects not only on his own life but the meaning of life for every man.*
- *Solomon addresses many views of the human experience.*
- *He concludes that the actions of life on earth are meaningless next to God.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: God gave wisdom to Solomon. Solomon shared his wisdom through the prime years of his life and again at the end. Consider how wisdom glorifies God. Consider the weight of the world that people place upon their lives against the power of God's creation and gift of life.

Notes:

Complete



NOTE!

You have made it a long way through the Bible!

Great Job!

HOLD YOUR TONGUE! You have only heard enough to be dangerous. Do not bend to the urge to make decisions, judgements or any leading statements. God is not finished speaking to you. You MUST hear the whole story.

*Keep focused on the message from God the Father.
Follow The Light!*

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Song of Songs aka Song of Solomon

Written by: Solomon and his wife

Written around: Middle 900s BC

- *These are songs and poems written by Solomon and his wife.*
- *If you wonder about God's approval of physical love, this book will answer your question.*
- *The book describes their meeting, courtship and marriage.*
- *This also provides a similarity of the love and sacrifice that Jesus would have for his church.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: Notice the happiness between these lovers. Think about God's original creation of Adam and Eve and how this celebration is being communicated in the bible so many years later. Feel the spiritual aspect of the emotions of the lovers. As you review the message of Song of Solomon hear how it adds depth and richness to God's message that has continued since the noting of creation and through earlier stories of the bible.

Notes:



Isaiah

Written by: Isaiah the prophet

Written around: Latter half of the 8th Century BC (Find the dates)

- *Isaiah is quite a long audio book. It is very important however. It speaks to both the time of these people as well as to the New Testament. Take your time and absorb the messages of Isaiah.*
- *Isaiah lived in Jerusalem during the expansion of the Assyrian empire.*
- *His book reviews the failures of the nations around him.*
- *He explains that God will punish Judah because of their sins.*
- *In this book Isaiah writes about the Messiah that would come, bring peace and rule the earth.*



Keeping focused on God's voice: Think about God's ultimate plan. Notice that God is providing foresight through his Prophets. Realize that God knows His plan, and knows His will. Take comfort in the fact that God's will exists today just as they did during the times of Isaiah. Think about where peoples' will fits into His plan during Old Testament times, and how that relates to His will today.

Notes:

Complete



Jeremiah

Written by: Jeremiah the Prophet

Written around: 626 – 586 BC

- *Jeremiah was a prophet for the reign of 5 kings, over 50 years.*
- *God had been patient for many years and now warned his people, through Jeremiah, to repent their sins and idolatry and return to Him. God explains that if they do not they will experience catastrophe.*
- *Through Jeremiah God explains that He intended His people to act as a light to the nations.*
- *He foretells the story of the Israelites being taken into captivity then tells of their return from captivity. He then goes on to foretell the coming of the Messiah who will bring peace to the world.*
- *The people did not repent, and Jerusalem fell to the Babylonian.*
- *The temple was destroyed and the people were exiled to Babylon.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: Think about repentance. Think about the importance of true repentance of each person's heart and what it means to God the Father.

Notes:

Complete



Lamentations

Written by: Most likely Jeremiah

Written around: 586 BC

- *This book connects to the previous book, Jeremiah.*
- *Lamentations is 5 poems that speak to the destruction of Jerusalem, the burning of the temple and the marching of the people into captivity far away from Jerusalem.*
- *The Babylonians marched the chosen people into captivity miles away from their homes.*
- *As you listen to the poems keep in mind the patience that God shows and the fact that he keeps His love for the people returning their country after they finally repent and return obediently to God.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: God is a loving God and a patient God. Notice that after allowing free will and even rebellious actions, God does exercise discipline when people stray too far from His Will. The Bible states that those who receive discipline are blessed.

Notes:

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Ezekiel

Written by: The prophet Ezekiel

Written around: 597 BC

- *Ezekiel was a Jew exiled to Babylon by King Nebuchadnezzar in 597 B.C.*
- *This book is Ezekiel telling the same prophesy being told by Jeremiah in Jerusalem. Ezekiel however was telling the story in Babylon to the 10,000 Jews that had been held captive.*
- *God's disciplined His people. As a result, God said, "...then you will know that I am the Lord".*
- *Ezekiel recorded this message from God and explained that this occurrence was God's way of getting His chosen people to serve only Him.*
- *The later message of the book was Ezekiel preaching hope.*
- *Once the people returned to obedience, God returned His people to Israel and to His Covenant.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: Think through God's continuous message through the books of the bible thus far. God is always with his people. He is constantly pursuing us and valuing our relationship with Him.

Notes:

Complete



Daniel

Written by: The prophet Daniel

Written around: Daniel lived in roughly 600 BC

- *This is an extremely important book to hear. Listen to it multiple times if necessary. Make sure that you fully hear the word of God through this book.*
- *The prophet Daniel is one of the finest examples of Godly conviction and integrity.*
- *When he was roughly 15 Daniel was taken captive in Babylon. He lived there under Babylonian and then Persian rule.*
- *God used Daniel to encourage the other exiles to have faith in God, and reassure them that he they still have a future with God.*
- *Many of the occurrences of the Bible, both Old and New Testaments, can be better understood once you have the context communicated by Daniel.*
- *The book begins with stories of Daniel's life, but then Daniel prophesize the future of the Chosen people and other nations, and then tells of the coming of the Messiah.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: The Beginning, the Middle and the End of the Bible story is all about God. The individual, the nations or gatherings, and people as a whole, are all about God.

Notes:

Complete



Hosea

Written by: Hosea the Prophet

Written around: The middle 700s BC

- *This is a difficult book to hear and understand by our generation of people.*
- *The story is of Hosea's disloyal wife betraying him.*
- *God uses Hosea and his disloyal wife as an example for God and His disloyal, rebellious people.*
- *The book acts as a final warning to the people of Northern Israel as they betrayed God and worshipped idols.*
- *After this warning, Northern Israel was destroyed.*
- *Israel / Ephraim / Samaria = 3 names for the same place: The Northern Territory of Israel .*



Keeping focused on God's voice: Realize that God is all knowing. He is the Beginning and the End. He knew what would occur from the time of creation. It is His plan to save mankind. Hosea is another focused instance of humankind not being able to do so on their own.

Notes:

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Written by: The Prophet Joel

Written around: 835 BC

- *The Lord is God! That is what Joel's name means.*
- *Joel tries to get the people of Judah to return to God's ways to keep them from experiencing greater struggle due to God's judgement.*
- *The Day of the Lord is Coming! Joel uses this phrase and mentions a recent drought and trouble with locusts to express his message.*
- *Joel prophesies that God will take His people back under His care if they repent. If they do the Holy Spirit will be with them.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: Blessed are those that God cares enough to discipline. Think of how God may have exercised discipline on you and others as a tool to love and help.

Notes:

Complete



Amos

Written by: Amos

Written around: 760 - 755 BC

- *“Prepare to meet your God!”*
- *Amos lived in the Southern Kingdom of Judah about 10 miles south of Jerusalem.*
- *The Northern Kingdom had betrayed and left the way of God.*
- *Amos is a shepherd that God sent to Jerusalem to announce judgement onto the people of the defiant Northern Kingdom that was now worshiping idols.*
- *After announcing God’s judgement onto the people of the Northern Kingdom Amos delivered a message of hope to the loyal believers. He prophesied the Kingdom of David reigning again.*

Keeping focused on God’s voice: God continues to make available His love, comfort and protection for His Chosen people. His position has held steadfast from the beginning.

Notes:

Complete



Obadiah

Written by: Obadiah, the prophet

Written around: Uncertain 841 or 586 BC

- *This is the story of a family feud stemming from the bothers, Jacob and Esau.*
- *Edam, comprised of the descendants of Esau, was on the SE border of Israel. Israel is the family of Jacob.*
- *As you may recall, Jacob had tricked Esau out of his rightful inheritance.*
- *Obadiah tells the story of the feud that developed between Edam and Israel over these rights.*
- *Edam is prideful about their lands and strengths. As they posture against Israel they boast and emphasize times when God's chosen people were ruled over by foreign, un-Godly powers.*
- *Obadiah prophecies that as a result of Edam's prideful stance and sinful activities, Israel will triumph over Edam.*



Keeping focused on God's voice: Remember the fact that Esau traded his inheritance for a meal. Also keep in mind God the Father and the Holy Spirit. Think about which side was spiritual and which is focused on earthly treasures and gain. There is a common thread that stems all the way back to the God's initial creation of man in His image in the Garden of Eden. Listen, and let God speak to you.

Notes:

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Jonah

Written by: Jonah

Written around: 760 BC

- *Interesting story. God directs Jonah to go to the Assyrian city of Nineveh to inform people that God would keep them from destruction.*
- *The Assyrians were a brutal people and Jonah was afraid of dying. He actually did not want the Assyrian's to be saved.*
- *Jonah refused God and sailed in the opposite direction.*
- *God overturns Jonah's actions and sends him to Nineveh in a "great fish".*
- *Jonah delivered God's message. The Assyrians turned to God and were saved.*
- *Then God used the giant fish as is one of the best known stories of The Bible.*
- *This story is one that many have questioned the miracle verses being a tall tail. Consider the details of the story. Did the fish remain alive? Was Jonah conscious during the trip. Listen to God and make your decision.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: Notice the fact that this is an Old Testament story where God pursues the gentiles. Consider his use of Jonah and the chosen people, the Jews. Also consider the Lord's Prayer and the words, "Thy will be done". Pray over your stance with God's will in your life.

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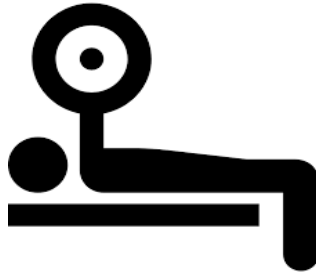


Micah

Written by: Micah the Profit

Written around: 750 and 686 BC

- *Micah delivered God's messages to the common people.*
- *One message: "What does the Lord require of you?" The answer, "To act justly, love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God."*
- *He also delivers the message that God will punish those with power for the injustice and pain that they inflict upon the people.*
- *He comforts the people letting them know of the coming Messiah.*



Keeping focused on God's voice: Think about God's creation of man in His image. What is God's image? Remember that Adam and Eve fell from grace. Is God created in your image? What does inflicted injustice do to a man? How would these actions feel to God, our creator as He notices the infliction upon each of His individuals? Does God have a message here for you?

Notes:

Complete



Nahum

Written by: Nahum the Prophet

Written about: between 663 - 612 BC

- *As you listen, remember that the city of Nineveh of Assyria repented its sins after the message delivered by Jonah.*
- *Nahum documents a later time after Nineveh returned to their sinful ways.*
- *Nahum pronounces God's judgement on Assyria and its capital city Nineveh.*
- *Nineveh was destroyed in 721 B.C..*

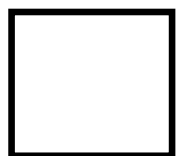


Keeping focused on God's voice: As you think about God's stance with the people of Nineveh think about the relation to the structure that God initially established with the people of Israel, before King Saul was placed. Pray.

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Habakkuk

Written by: The Prophet Habakkuk

Written about: Roughly 700 B.C.

- *This book can well establish a fear of God, especially when considering the concepts in current times.*
- *Habakkuk recognizes that the powerful leaders were prospering while oppressing and mistreating the people of Judah.*
- *Habakkuk asks God why He allows this to happen. God tells Habakkuk that the leaders of Judah would be punished by the Babylonians.*
- *Habakkuk then asks why He would use a sinful, un-Godly people to punish His chosen people. God explains that the Babylonians would in turn be punished.*
- *Why would God use a country that was more sinful to punish His chosen people? God answered that after dealing with Judah, Babylon too would be punished.*
- *Upon hearing the answers Habakkuk trusted and praised God and prays for mercy.*
- *In 605 BC the Southern Kingdom of Judah did fall to the Babylonians. Babylon was destroyed later.*

Keeping your light focused on God's voice: All people are God's people. His will be done.

Notes:

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Zephaniah

Written by: Zephaniah, a prophet in Southern Judah.

Written around: 640 - 625 B.C.

- *The people of Judah were worshiping pagan gods. Zephaniah warns them of future disaster.*
- *King Josiah of Judah had implemented spiritual reforms but it was too late to stop the ruin of Judah.*
- *As the Babylonians overthrew Judah in 605 B.C. they took prisoners into captivity.*
- *Jeremiah was prophesying in Israel at this same time.*
- *The end of Zephaniah's prophesy expresses the hope that the people will return to God.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: If you have listened to the books of the Bible in order you will have heard many stories with many characters. Have you noticed that the main character of the Bible is God? Have you found that when you hear the books of the bible in order, one after the other, the many characters, no matter how colorful, exist to highlight the story of God the Father?

Notes:

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Haggai

Written by: The prophet Haggai

Written Around: 520 BC

- *This book asks some challenging questions to straighten out the Jewish people who had returned from Babylon.*
- *Haggai asks the people of Jerusalem how they could live comfortably in their beautiful land when after 15 years they still had not rebuilt God's temple.*
- *The people met the challenge and rebuilt the temple in 4 years.*
- *Haggai prophesied a wonderful future for the Jewish people.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: Imagine society today if the population prioritized God first.

Notes:

Complete



Zechariah

Written by: The Prophet Zechariah

Written around: 520 BC, only 2 months after Haggai

- *Zechariah's name means, The Lord remembers.*
- *He is one of the Jewish people who returned from captivity in Babylon.*
- *Now that the people are back in their land Zechariah preaches that obedience is the key to receiving God's blessing.*
- *Zechariah encourages the people as they rebuilt the temple and prophesied that God has a greater future for the Jewish people.*
- *Zechariah speaks about the coming of the Messiah.*



Keeping focused on God's voice: Take a moment to consider God's perspective as he deals with His people. Think about the actions of the people from the time of God and Abraham, all the way to the message conveyed by the Prophet Zechariah.

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Malachi

Written by: The prophet Malachi

Written around: 438 BC

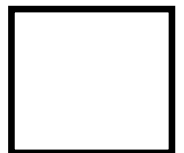
- *The people had returned to their land from Babylon roughly a hundred years early. The temple had been rebuilt.*
- *The people had become comfortable with life in Israel and were not worshipping as outlined for the Jewish faith.*
- *Offerings were not being given to God as instructed by His law.*
- *People were marrying outside of the Jewish community, as God had directed against.*
- *Malachi prophesied that the God would judge his people for their actions.*
- *He also prophesied the coming of Messiah.*
- *After Malachi comes the 400 years of silence. This is the last word sent by God until the Angel Gabriel announces the coming of John the Baptist.*

Keeping focused on God's voice: Think back on how God has interacted during each book of The Old Testament. Consider the fact that each story captured within each book was not actually about the characters and people, but about God. God created. God interacted. The people were not obedient and did not understand and follow God's will. The coming of the Messiah fulfills God's will.

Notes:

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*Congratulations! You have completed the section
known as The Old Testament*

Fall to your knees and pray! Thank God for His Word!

Great Job!



*This has been the foundation.
Next you will hear God provide fulfillment
for the people that He created.*

*Keep focused on the message from God the Father.
Get ready for an enlightening change of tone!*

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The New Testament starts roughly 400 years after
Nehemiah

Nehemiah: 438 BC

John the Baptist birth: Roughly 5 BC

The New Testament

This set of books and letters tell the next of God's documented stories that began with Genesis. This book is a collection of 4 books that document God's life in human form in the life of the Jewish man, Jesus of Nazareth. The letters are written by His followers who work to spread His message and story.

In Matthew 5: 17-20 Jesus says: "Do not think that I have not come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to them but to fulfill them."

This book documents God providing the method for returning all people, Jewish and non-Jewish, to His love, care and body. It is the greatest news of all time for all people.

The Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John

- These are the stories of the life of Jesus of Nazareth, the Messiah.
- Like Deuteronomy, these four books repeat the same story multiple times. Each has unique view points and information, but they all address the same topic. Matthew, Mark and Luke are very similar. John has a much different structure.
- Many argue as to the reason why Matthew was Divinely inspired to be first in the New Testament. Whatever the reason it is helpful as Matthew best picks up where Malachi leaves off, 400 years later. It appears to address the Jewish audience more than the Gentile audience such as The Book of Luke.
- Mark is believe to be the oldest of the four Gospels.
- Luke, is believed to have been written years after Jesus' death and resurrection. Luke listened to those who experienced Jesus Christ first hand. This book explains the fact that the Grace of Jesus Christ is for all people, not only the Jews.
- John knew Jesus. His writing provides the logical lineage of Jesus back to the line of King David, as supporting proof that Jesus is the fulfillment of the prophesies, the Messiah and The Son of God.



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Matthew

- Written by: The apostle Matthew
- Written around: 85-95 AD

- Picks up chronologically 400 years after the Book of Malachi.
- Matthew wrote his gospel to explain to the Jewish people that Jesus was the fulfillment of the Old Testament.
- The book of Matthew provides the ancestry of Jesus back to the Jewish Father, Abraham.
- The Jewish people were expecting God to provide a leader similar to David, and establishing an earthly kingdom.
- Matthew explains that Jesus was the fulfillment, but not in the terms that the Jewish people had expected.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Listen for the voice of God the Father in the delivery of Jesus.

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Mark

Written by: Believed to be John Mark, known as Mark.

Written around: Believed to be AD 50s - 60s - Before the Romans destroyed the Temple

- Mark was the cousin of Barnabas and accompanied him and Paul on their first journey. Some believe that Mark received his information from Peter.
- Mark wrote about the life of Jesus to provide the glorious story to the Gentiles. This gospel was written for the Romans to teach the facts of Jesus. Mark explains his birth, life, death and resurrection.
- The book explains that Jesus came not as a political leader but as a servant who would sacrifice himself for his people.
- Much of this book focuses on Jesus' death and resurrection.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Unlike the Old Testament that was the interaction between God and His Chosen People, this book opens up God's audience to ALL people. This includes you! God LOVES You. He sent His son, who is God, and who died for you. He provided the Bible as a way to communicate with You and with ALL of His people.

You may have heard this statement in the past. Contemplate it now in perspective of what you have heard since Genesis.

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Luke

Written by: Luke, a gentile, physician

Written around: Estimated 50-60 AD

- Early in his book Luke explains early in his book that his writing is the result of research rather than being involved in the daily life of Jesus.
- Luke was a friend of Paul and interviewed numerous eye witnesses. Some believe that much of his text was from discussions with Peter.
- Luke provide greatest detail of the birth of Jesus and traces Jesus' genealogy back to Adam.
- He writes the book to explain to all people that Jesus truly was a man as well as being God. Luke's writing documents the caring, generosity, compassion and love of Jesus.
- Luke's book shows Jesus living His life perfectly was important to His being the sacrifice for all of mankind.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Recall Man's separation from God in Genesis, then all of the generations who strayed from God's will, as it related to Jesus Christ. Think of how Jesus lived His life in the society of the time.

Notes:

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John

Written by: John, the disciple

Written around: 85-90 AD

- Jesus IS God! John writes to record this fact as a first hand witness.
- Different than the other gospels, John composes his record to satisfy the reader through logic, that Jesus is God.
- You will hear the fact that people can only obtain grace and a return to God the Father through Jesus Christ.
- John was a first hand witness of Jesus Christ. He followed Christ. He saw and experienced Christ's crucifixion and Jesus after he rose. John saw Jesus ascend to Heaven. And as you will hear shortly, John was given the vision of Revelation.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Consider God's actions in the Miracles that he performed in Jesus Christ!

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TRACK YOUR PROGRESS!!!

Book	Disk(s)	Your Disk #	Day Finished	Book	Disk(s)	Your Disk #	Day Finished
Genesis	1-3			Nahum	47		
Exodus	4-6			Habakkuk	47		
Leviticus	6-8			Zephaniah	48		
Numbers	8-10			Haggai	48		
Deuteronomy	10-12			Zechariah	48		
Joshua	12-14			Malachi	48		
Judges	14-15			Matthew	1-2 / 49-50		
Ruth	15			Mark	3-4 / 51-52		
1 Samuel	15-17			Luke	4-6 / 52-54		
2 Samuel	17-18			John	6-8 / 54-56		
1 Kings	19-20			Acts	8-10 / 56-58		
2 Kings	20-22			Romans	10-11 / 58-59		
1 Chronicles	22-23			1 st Corinthians	11 / 59		
2 Chronicles	24-25			2 nd Corinthians	11-12 / 59-60		
Ezra	25-26			Galatians	12 / 60		
Nehemiah	26-27			Ephesians	12-13 / 60-61		
Esther	27			Philippians	13 / 61		
Job	27-29			Colossians	13 / 61		
Psalms	29-33			1 st Thessalonians	13 / 61		
Proverbs	33-34			2 nd Thessalonians	13 / 61		
Ecclesiastes	34			1 st Timothy	13 / 61		
Song of Solomon	35			2 nd Timothy	14 / 62		
Isaiah	35-38			Titus	14 / 62		
Jeremiah	38-41			Philemon	14 / 62		
Lamentations	41			Hebrews	14 / 62		
Ezekiel	41-45			James	14-15 / 62-63		
Daniel	45-46			1 st Peter	15 / 63		
Hosea	46			2 nd Peter	15 / 63		
Joel	46			1 st John	15 / 63		
Amos	46			2 nd John	15 / 63		
Obadiah	47			3 rd John	15 / 63		
Jonah	47			Jude	15 / 63		
Micah	47			Revelation	15-16 / 63-64		

Acts (The Acts of the Apostles or The Acts of the Holy Spirit)

Written by: Luke

Written Around: Different scholars suggest anyone from 60-80 AD

- This book tells the story of the 30 years after Jesus returned to heaven.
- This is the story of how the small group of disciples travelled to begin forming the new Christian Church.
- Certain portions of Acts are believed to reference back to the book of Luke.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Contemplate The Holy Spirit! Think back on God's covenant with His Chosen People and how He interacted with this group, and with the Gentiles as documents in the books of The Old Testament. Think of the Power of the Holy Spirit and how God is fulfilling His covenant to all of the people of His creation.

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Don't miss the forest despite the trees



Moving forward at this part of the bible is a very important area to keep this in mind. It is very easy to look at the individual sentences of these letters and see what everyone else is doing wrong in their Christian lives.

Keep these letters in perspective with God's word all the way back to Genesis. Keep an open mind. Finish the whole Bible. Do not take the path of being a hypocrite.

Romans (Paul's letter to the Romans)

Written by: Paul

Written around: 57-58

- Paul wrote this letter to a relatively new church in Rome.
- This is a very straight forward letter that provides explanation for having faith in God and that salvation comes through Jesus Christ.
- Paul explains our need to be forgiven and that we as Christians can live better and more appropriately than we do.
- Paul's letter clearly establishes that salvation has been given by God, to ALL people, through Jesus.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Contemplate the difference between God's interaction with the nation of Israel and the people of the Old Testament verses the God's fulfillment of the prophecies in Jesus Christ.

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1 Corinthians (Paul's letter to the church at Corinth)

Written by: Paul

Written Around: 55 AD

- Paul wrote this letter to the Church at the seaport city of Corinth. Paul had founded a church in Corinth.
- The people of this church were following the peer pressure related to the sin and corruption. These were standard characteristics of their seaport city.
- Paul wrote the letter to teach them how to properly live and worship.
- Paul explains that as believers in Christ we are new people.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Although you have made your way through a great amount of the Bible you have not yet heard all of God's message. Hold back the urge try and explain to those who have not heard the word of God. Pray, and bring them to begin hearing God's word for themselves.

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2 Corinthians (Paul's 2nd letters to the Corinthians)

Written by: Paul

Written Around: 55 - 56

- Paul wrote this letter not long after his first letter to the Corinthians.
- Although many in the church had learned from Paul's guidance in his first letter, this letter addresses others in the church who were headed in the wrong direction.
- Some in the church were beginning to mislead people. They were also questioned Paul's authority.
- They also questioned whether Paul was properly handling money that had been collected to help the poor in Jerusalem.
- Paul defend his actions and his authority.
- He encourages all to stay committed to God.

Keeping focused on God's voice: God is the Alpha and the Omega. Do situations like these look any different today than they did in the past? Consider how God has asked us to live throughout His word. Consider Paul's statement about no longer regarding people in the flesh. Think upon God the Father's appearances throughout the Old Testament. Consider the original, eternal creation of Adam. Then consider the Fall. Then consider Jesus' assentation. Consider all of God's Creation of Mankind, and our eternal return to God the Father through Jesus Christ.

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Galatians (Paul's letter to the Galatians)

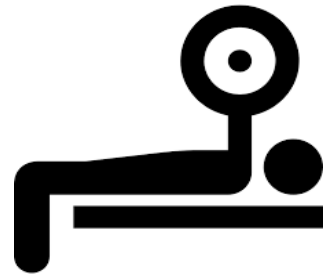
Written by: Paul

Written Around: Early to Mid- 50s AD

- Paul wrote this letter to the Galatians. The letter explains the relationship between the Jewish law and the earthly life, and salvation of Gentile Christians.
- The Jewish people struggled with the required actions of the Jewish law from their heritage while believing that they were saved by the Grace of Jesus Christ. This letter addresses that struggle.
- Paul helped them understand the true meaning of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross and explained that people's individual actions are not a way to salvation. Salvation is a gift.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Listen for God the Father. You have heard God speak in the Old Testament. You heard God speak through the Prophets and foretell of Jesus Christ and His new covenant. You have heard God ask His creation to follow His lead. You have seen the generations fail. You have seen God take the struggle upon Himself, and return Grace as His gift, saving His creation. Consider your place and the place of your efforts at this stage of God's creation.

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Ephesians (Paul's letter to Ephesians)

Written by: Believed by most to be written by Paul.

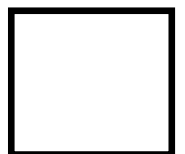
Written Around: Different scholars date the writing between 60 and 80 AD

- Written to the church that Paul established in Ephesus.
- Ephesus one of the most populous and important city in the region. Both Paul and John lived in Ephesus for a time.
- This is an upbeat letter from Paul, written to believers of "The Way" to help them understand that God has a greater purpose than that of their culture and daily life.
- This letter explains that the Church is not a building. This letter explains that people of Jewish and Gentile background, as believers are all members of The Church.
- Paul's purpose is to encourage Christian people to place their faith in Jesus Christ and live in the manner of Jesus Christ.

Keeping focused on God's voice: *Remember back to the beginning of your journey through The Bible. Think back to the question, Is The Bible Divinely inspired and guided by God? Pray about this again. Consider this as you think back upon how the books have intertwined. Consider God the Father, (I am), His Son, the Messiah, Jesus Christ, and The Holy Spirit. Think about our One God as you continue hearing His story about God and His creation.*

Notes:

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Philippians (Paul's letter to the Church in Philippi)

Written by: Paul

Written around: AD 61-63

- This is a wonderful, helpful letter all people of all times.
- Paul explains that people can improve their lives by living as Christians.
- Paul explains happiness and joy.
- Joy is evident when Christians acknowledge that they are loved by God, that Jesus is their Messiah and God is involved in their lives.
- Happiness is dependent on the specific circumstances of the time.
- Paul warns that self-centered thoughts and actions takes away from Christ and Joy.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Think about the voice that you are hearing. Remember, Paul spent time persecuting the followers of Jesus. He then met Jesus and gained his ministry. As you consider this letter, think of the greater message of God the Father and the Son. Listen to the tone of Paul. Think about how God used Paul within God's greater message to you as an individual and to all people how hear His word.

Notes:

Complete



Colossians (Paul's letter to the church at Colossi)

Written by: Paul

Written around: 60-62 AD

- Whatever you do in word or deed, do in the name of the Lord Jesus.
- Paul writes this letter to express concern that the people were listening to the wrong teachers. He believed that these incorrect teachers were mixing God's word with beliefs and traditions of other philosophies. By doing so they were misrepresenting the realities of Grace through Jesus Christ.
- Paul explains that the idea of special knowledge only available to some on earth, denies the gift and actions of Jesus Christ our Savior.
- Paul emphasizes Jesus is God, stresses the meaning of Jesus' death on the cross, and His relation to God the Father.
- He also explains the importance of living a Godly inspired life for all Christians.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Think about the message that God has delivered to you as you have listened directly to His word. Consider how the wishes of culture and individuals focused on their own interest bend and change the true message that comes from listening to God's word directly.

Notes:

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1Thessalonians (Paul's letter to the church at Thessalonica)

Written by: Paul

Written around: AD 51

- The church at Thessalonica had recently been established. In the case of this church many of those converting to Christianity were pagans.
- Paul wrote this letter to instruct these new Christians on Godly living.
- His letter attempts to provide comfort that the Christians who die, and will die before Christ Jesus returns are not lost.
- Paul's letter provides assurance that Jesus Christ will return and urges that these new Christians live their lives in a manner that will be well received by Christ.

Keeping focused on God's voice: The only man who truly understood the bigger picture of creation, the future and the perspective of God was The Son, Jesus Christ. No man in history nor any man since has had this knowledge.

Notes:

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2 Thessalonians (Paul's 2nd letter to the church as Thessalonica)

Written by: Paul

Written around: 51 AD

- At the time of this some people believed that Jesus had already returned for a second time. Other had stopped daily life to await Christ's second return.
- At the time there was continuing hostility towards Christ's followers.
- Paul wrote this letter to this church to clear up confusion and to encourage the recently converted believers to continue living as Christians.
- Paul's message helped explain how to live until that day occurs.
- In general, don't stop the activities of your daily lives or you will starve.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Consider God's gift to man, a lifetime here on earth. As you contemplate God's voice, think about how you are spending your time.

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1 Timothy

Written by: Paul to Timothy, the Pastor

Written around: 63-66 AD

- This letter is written to clergy rather than to followers.
- Paul wrote this letter near the end of his ministry to help young Pastor Timothy as Timothy was working to straighten out issues with early churches.
- Timothy was tasked with minimizing issues that had arisen in the church as people had begun changing the proper teaching.
- This letter advised Timothy on establishing leadership and administration within the church.

Keeping focused on God's voice: As always listen for God's voice. Remember that this letter, the characters and all that is happening at the time are sub-stories to the greater story of I AM.

Notes:



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2 Timothy

Written by: Paul

Written around 66-67 AD

- This was Paul's last letter. It is brief but powerful. It is believed that Paul wrote this while imprisoned by Roman Emperor Nero, and was executed shortly after writing this letter.
- This can be read as a message to the future Christian church.
- In this letter Paul's message addresses the completeness of time. He reaches back to the first words of God's creation as well as into the future, and end of human time.
- You will hear demands of the culture that don't agree with those of God's way and have caused the divide. The result causes earthly punishment for Paul.
- These demands of culture vs the proper actions of the faith have also been the reason for many who had been with Paul now leaving the faith, while others have remained faithful.
- He reminds Timothy what is truly important in the faith.
- The message speaks to both the Pastors and to all Christians from Paul's time forward.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Remember that God is the primary focus of even this letter from Paul. Think about how Paul's life has fit into God's story.

Notes:

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Titus

Written by: Paul

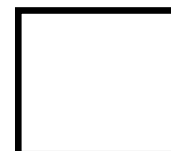
Written around: 63-66 AD

- Titus was a Greek convert to following Jesus Christ.
- He was a great help to Paul in his ministry and was Paul's lead his ministry in Crete.
- Crete was an island with a very sinful and difficult culture.
- Paul wrote to help advise and encourage Titus in his very difficult ministry in Crete.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Listen for God's voice as He speaks to you about the culture in which you were born, and the battle inherent in following God's word and the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Notes:

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Philemon

Written by: Paul

Written around: 60 - 63 AD

- The shortest book of the Bible. But a huge message to the people of all ages.
- Paul wrote this letter to a man named Philemon. Philemon was a slave owner, believer and member of the church in Colossi.
- Onesimus, Philemon's slave had stolen from Philemon and run away. Under Roman law these actions were punishable by death.
- While away Onesimus met Paul in Rome and came to faith in Jesus Christ.
- As a result of his new faith Onesimus was willing to return to Philemon.
- Paul wrote this letter pleading that Philemon accept Onesimus back as a free man and brother in Christ.
- This letter speaks to all people explaining that all believers are family in Christ.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Contemplate your earthly, cultural setting and relationships verses your relationship with God. Then layer on the relationship that we all share as brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ and in God our Father and Creator. Let these considerations sink in and change your daily outlook and actions. Think about God's way of changing His world.

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Hebrews

Written by: Unknown

Written around: Scholars estimate between 64 -70 AD - The temple was destroyed and the sacrificial system of law had ended.

- Hebrews is a book loaded with foundational information. It provides a wonderful explanation of The New Covenant provided in Jesus Christ.
- It was written to the Jewish people who were giving consideration to following the ways of Jesus the Christ.
- The letter may have been written to support the Jewish people who were beginning to be persecuted for having followed Jesus Christ. Some may have been letting go of Jesus and returning the practices of their Jewish heritage.
- Historically, Hebrews may have been written at a time when both the traditional Jewish religion and the empire of Rome were actively searching to punish Christians. Christians may have been leaving Christianity to escape the punishment.
- Hebrews provides a wonderful explanation for an individual to see the progression from the covenant to the new. The old covenant that included prophets, commandments and sacrificial rituals was now fulfilled by the Messiah, Jesus Christ. He had fulfilled the scriptures, the law, concurred sin and overcome death. With acceptance of Christ as the Messiah you are given Grace.
- Finally through Jesus Christ all barriers to God have been removed. All people had now received salvation through Him, and in God's time will be returned to the Creator forgiven through The Savior, and blessed with the life originally intended for mankind.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Consider God's actions going back to Abraham and Abraham's children. Consider the books that you have heard where generation after generation had been listed to trace the family lineage. Consider all of the other people of the earth that God created and cared for outside of the Jewish faith. Then consider the similarities between Exodus, Leviticus and Numbers, with the message of Hebrews.

Another consideration: How do the gifts and messages of God interact with culture and politics. Think about how the culture of those days compares with the culture of today.

Think about God's message to each individual, including you, today. His relationship is with each individual. No man or organization is intended to disrupt this covenant.

Notes:

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James

Written by: Unconfirmed: James, the Jesus' half brother

Written around: Some scholars believe James wrote this book in 40 AD while others believe it to have been 60 AD

- In earlier life James did not believe that his half-brother Jesus was the Messiah.
- Later James became a Church leader, preaching to Jewish conversions.
- This letter calls Christians to action. Although actions do not lead to Grace, James explains that if you consider yourself to be a follower of Christ you must act. As a Christian you are responsible for taking on the view of Jesus Christ and help others in accordance with His example.
- James also explains the importance and power of what you say and how you say it.
- He also communicates that suffering can be a good thing to a follower of Jesus Christ.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Has God spoken to you during your journey through The Bible? Who's voice and opinions are most important? Do you feel a call to action at this stage of your journey? Finish listening to The Bible. You may find yourself struggling with who's voice and opinions are most important in your life. God is your creator. Pray.

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James was a call to Action

With the Letter from James being a call to action the logical place to begin is hearing The Word of God. Your journey through The Bible is such an important action!

Keep focused on the message from God the Father.

Great Job!

Remember to Pray often!

Book	Disk(s)	Your Disk #	Day Finished	Book	Disk(s)	Your Disk #	Day Finished
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Amos	46			2 nd John	15 / 63		
Obadiah	47			3 rd John	15 / 63		
Jonah	47			Jude	15 / 63		
Micah	47			Revelation	15-16 / 63-64		

1 Peter

Written by: Peter

Written around: 60 - 64 AD

- Peter wrote this letter to the churches of Rome.
- The Roman Catholic Church describe Peter as the first Pope.
- After having denied Christ 3 times, having been beaten and threatened and having seen many of his friends die through their ministries, Peter writes this letter about how Jesus suffered. He explains how suffering in the name Jesus will be rewarded by God.
- He comforts those dedicated and suffering in the name of Christ with the hope of eternal life.
- Peter's letter tells of the importance of living faithfully and challenges the people to remain loyal to Christ.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Think back on what God has said to you since you began your journey in Genesis. Pray daily at a minimum. Continue building your relationship with God the Father through Christ.

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2 Peter

Written by: Peter

Written around: Scholars believe 2nd Peter to have been written in either 64-68 AD or in the 80-90 AD Period

- This letter is a warning of false teachers within the churches.
- Peter points out that teachers can subtly distort and deceive.
- Peter encourages each person to learn and grow their relationship with God through the Divinely inspired word of God.
- You will find warnings against the danger of heroics that mislead and undermining God's word.
- Peter was killed shortly after the time of this letter.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Who is better to speak God's word to you than God? God loves you. You need to listen directly to God's word. For the best life experience listening for and to God never ends.

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1 John

Written by: The Apostle John

Written around: 85-90 AD

- John knew Jesus, God. He had worked with him while younger. He saw the ministry of Jesus. John lived with Him and saw Him die. John interacted with Jesus after His resurrection. John witnessed Jesus going up into heaven.
- John wrote this letter to remove doubts and build assurance as to who Jesus/God was and is.
- He wanted to correct false beliefs that Jesus may not have been human, and corrects incorrect beliefs about what is evil.
- In this book John writes to assure believers of their salvation through Jesus Christ.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Remember that this is God's book. This of how he has delivered His message through the use of this letter from John.

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2 John

Written by: The Apostle John

Written around: 80-90 AD

- This book provides the basics on following Jesus Christ.
- The letter was intended for the young churches and newly converted believers to protect them from false teachers.
- This letter stresses the need for truth, love and obedience.

Keeping focused on God's voice: God called you to hear His word in The Bible. Think about the Word that God has provided to you. Will you let any man suggest words contrary to those provided directly by God? God strengthens, consoles and smothers his followers with love through the words of His Bible.

Notes:

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3 John

Written by: A letter to the Apostle John to Gaius

Written around: 80-90 AD

- John wrote this brief letter near the end of his life to a man named Gaius. Gaius was known for hosting missionaries and teachers.
- The writing praises Gaius for hospitality while addressing the shortcomings of others who put themselves above the church leaders, teachers, missionaries and those of authority in the Word.
- John extends the love of Christ although he is addressing a difficult situation.
- People who care for those to spread and teach the Word are being obedient to God.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Contemplate the fact that when John had to face a difficult situation amongst the people and their daily activities he started with the baseline of Christ's love. It is the solid rock on which you can build. Also, pray and think about the similarities and differences of people being referenced in Colossians, 1st Timothy and in the world today.

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Jude

Written by: A letter by Judy, Jesus' half-brother and brother of James

Written around: Mid-60s AD

- Jude writes a brief letter to believers to warn them against false teachings.
- Jude begs believers to fight for the faith, the church and gift that has been given to them by God in Jesus Christ.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Think of God's message to people of all time. Think of God's messages through all of the books and how people have prioritized their earthly trappings against the gift of a relationship with God. Is God calling you to change your priorities? If there are changes, are they easy or difficult? Are they as difficult as the challenges to the early Christians? Is there anything more important?

Notes:

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Revelation

Written by: The Apostle John

Written around: 90-100 AD

- This book is John's recording of the Revelation that was provided to him by God.
- The bible is God's story. Genesis began with the creation of the world, the creatures upon it and man.
- The book of Revelation tells the story of the end of the earth, man's entry into eternity, Jesus' rule and the return of all to God.
- As you listen keep in mind that God is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.
- The book of Revelation records things as God knows them to be and shares with John. This is not Hollywood entertainment. Unlike predictions of society where the future is changeable based on the actions of people, this future is recorded and completed fact.
- John makes it clear that he has recorded these facts as he has seen them. They were not up for change, opinion or man's editing. Enjoy the comfort of the days when the Lord returns defeat sin and evil, and directly rule his believers.

Keeping focused on God's voice: Remember, the story of the Bible is God's story. People are but His creations to demonstrate His glory and power. We must choose to be guided by His will or to take a separate course of our own will. The end is already written.

Consider the messages to the churches. As you consider Revelation remember God's action when destroying Jerusalem as documented in the books of Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel and the Prophets. Think of the similarities of how God dealt with Israel and Judah and the descriptions of how He will deal with the earth during the time of Jesus' return.

Notes:

Complete

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TRACK YOUR PROGRESS!!!

Book	Disk(s)	Your Disk #	Day Finished	Book	Disk(s)	Your Disk #	Day Finished
Genesis	1-3			Nahum	47		
Exodus	4-6			Habakkuk	47		
Leviticus	6-8			Zephaniah	48		
Numbers	8-10			Haggai	48		
Deuteronomy	10-12			Zechariah	48		
Joshua	12-14			Malachi	48		
Judges	14-15			Matthew	1-2 / 49-50		
Ruth	15			Mark	3-4 / 51-52		
1 Samuel	15-17			Luke	4-6 / 52-54		
2 Samuel	17-18			John	6-8 / 54-56		
1 Kings	19-20			Acts	8-10 / 56-58		
2 Kings	20-22			Romans	10-11 / 58-59		
1 Chronicles	22-23			1 st Corinthians	11 / 59		
2 Chronicles	24-25			2 nd Corinthians	11-12 / 59-60		
Ezra	25-26			Galatians	12 / 60		
Nehemiah	26-27			Ephesians	12-13 / 60-61		
Esther	27			Philippians	13 / 61		
Job	27-29			Colossians	13 / 61		
Psalms	29-33			1 st Thessalonians	13 / 61		
Proverbs	33-34			2 nd Thessalonians	13 / 61		
Ecclesiastes	34			1 st Timothy	13 / 61		
Song of Solomon	35			2 nd Timothy	14 / 62		
Isaiah	35-38			Titus	14 / 62		
Jeremiah	38-41			Philemon	14 / 62		
Lamentations	41			Hebrews	14 / 62		
Ezekiel	41-45			James	14-15 / 62-63		
Daniel	45-46			1 st Peter	15 / 63		
Hosea	46			2 nd Peter	15 / 63		
Joel	46			1 st John	15 / 63		
Amos	46			2 nd John	15 / 63		
Obadiah	47			3 rd John	15 / 63		
Jonah	47			Jude	15 / 63		
Micah	47			Revelation	15-16 / 63-64		

Notable References

1. Miller, Stephen M. The Complete Guide to the Bible: Barbour Books, Barbour Publishing, Inc. 2007. Print
2. Zondervan NIV: 2001 Zondervan The Holy Bible, New International Version, Copyright 1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society. Audio.