

THE HABIT OF BIBLE READING

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Reading the Bible is an important part of a Christian's faith and growth. It is a habit that keeps on giving throughout life. Many want to develop this habit but fail to ever start. Others start daily Bible readings but eventually fall into sporadic readings or quit altogether. We should not get discouraged. Good habits take time and effort to establish.

The start of a new year is a time many like to begin a reading schedule that will take them through the Bible. What things are important to help us establish and maintain the habit of reading our Bibles?

A DESIRE TO KNOW GOD'S WORD. If I am interested in something, I will spend a good amount of time involved in it. Every Christian should have a desire to know the divine knowledge revealed by God. The only place to find this special revelation of God is in the Bible. There I learn of God's wonderful plan to save man from sin. I learn of how I can be saved and live a godly life. If I really want to learn of God's ways and be a better person, I will read and study the Bible as much as I can.

A GOOD PLAN AND SCHEDULE OF READINGS. Sporadic, hit-and-miss Bible readings rarely benefit the reader. A good plan with a consistent schedule of readings is needed to gain the maximum benefits of Bible study. Do I want to read the entire Bible through in one or two years? (Many different schedules are available for reading the entire Bible). Should I concentrate on one particular book? How many verses or chapters should I read per day or week? What kind of things do I want to learn? Plans and schedules can vary but follow one that will best structure your study. You will not regret it.

REFUSE THE URGE TO QUIT. There will be times when you will not feel like reading, or when circumstances interfere with the time set aside for reading. It is easy to be distracted or discouraged, but don't quit! Be stubborn and maintain your schedule of reading. Good habits are developed with devotion, desire, and diligence.