

GRACE AND TRUTH ONE-YEAR BIBLE PLAN

The **Grace and Truth Plan** is a one-year Bible reading plan, but it is more than that. In fact, it intentionally blends together many of the best features found in other excellent plans. The 19th Century Scottish minister Murray M'Cheyne's plan remains one of the best loved and most used plans, taking readers through the New Testament and Psalms twice and the rest of the Bible once per year, dividing daily readings into four parts. This seems especially wise, giving greater focus to the promises fulfilled in Christ in the New Testament and making sure the heart is fed and human emotions are addressed abundantly through the Psalms. And it avoids the fatal flaw of straight-through and chronological plans that don't bring readers into the New Testament until the last quarter of the year (or even the third year of three-year plans). Professor Grant Horner's Bible Reading System goes much further, splitting Scripture readings into 10 parts, each read one chapter per day, allowing for different parts of Scripture to speak into other portions in near-infinite combinations over time. This is a feast! But an overly intimidating one to most of us. Finally, Trent Hunter's Bible Eater Plan is valued for its unique design, not tying specific readings to specific dates. Rather, it has built in "grace days" that allow readers so many missed days each month.

It is hoped that many disciples will find the **Grace and Truth One-Year Bible Plan** to be a comfortable middle road. One that keeps readers immersed in all areas of God's Word, gives emphasis to the promises fulfilled in Christ, and offers much grace in terms of both the abundant gospel content and the optional days off from reading. Disciples should be encouraged and fed, not overwhelmed and so give up!

How to use the Grace and Truth Plan:

Every day possible, disciples should read the suggested number of chapters from the five lists indicated in the attached chart (weekends will vary from weekdays):

1. Old Testament Law & History (2 chapters per weekday; none on weekend) – Here is the infallible account of the Creation of man and the world, the Fall of man in sin, the history of God's people in the Old Covenant, and God's promises and holy law for his people that reveal so much of his character.
2. Job/Old Testament Prophets (1 chapter per day) – Job is an amazing testimony to the sovereignty of God. And the prophets are wonderful to read – but perhaps it is better to spread these readings throughout the year rather than bunched. These books provide great insight into the redemptive history being read concurrently in both the Old and New Testaments. And they tell of the seriousness of our sin in God's eyes, its severe consequences, our great need for repentance, God's gracious promises, and the blessed hope of complete forgiveness and full adoption into God's family offered through the promised Messiah.
3. Psalms/Ecclesiastes/Song of Solomon (1 chapter per weekday; 3 per weekend) – Takes readers through the Psalms twice per year with a break in the middle to read Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon.
4. New Testament (1 chapter per weekday; 4 per weekend) – God's promises fulfilled in Christ! Here disciples are taken through the NT twice (though just once through each of the Gospels), spread across the year in a unique but reasonable fashion. Here is found the infallible interpretive key to all of redemptive history: "And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, [Jesus] interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself" (Lk 24:27).
5. Proverbs (1 per day, chapters following monthly calendar dates) – How important is this book for Christians? "Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding, for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold" (Pr 3:13-14). After receiving grace, here is our "how-to" guide for living out our daily lives in wise and edifying ways in keeping with our identity in Christ.

But wait – there's grace here!

If life's circumstances have you missing a day here and there – or even a string of many days – no worries! In all, 55 grace days (roughly one per week) are built into the **Grace and Truth Plan**.

Moreover, weekend readings may be divided over Saturday and Sunday however the reader finds best. In fact, the plan is intentionally flexible at nearly all points to fit the varied schedules, needs and desires of individual disciples.

Other features of note:

- * By arranging the readings from Job and John's Gospel at the beginning of the year, Genesis's account of God's work in creation is strongly reinforced.
- * Psalm 119 – the longest chapter in the Bible by far with 176 verses – is broken into 22 natural and inspired portions to read. Much easier to swallow!
- * The New Testament readings through the year follow a twofold pattern of Gospel, Pauline Epistles, Gospel-Acts, Non-Pauline Epistles.
- * Luke's Gospel and Acts, which he also authored, are sequentially paired.
- * Since the book of Proverbs is read in its entirety each month, readers can feel free to skip the chapters missed due to grace days taken.

Enjoy the feast and grow in the Lord! *Soli Deo Gloria!*

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Grace days: 4-5 per month											
January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
OT LAW & HISTORY 2 per weekday / weekend off			JOB/OT PROPHETS 1 per day			PSALMS/ECCLESIASTES/SONG OF SONGS 1 per weekday / 3 per weekend			NEW TESTAMENT 1 per weekday / 4 per weekend		
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PROVERBS – 1 per day, chapters following monthly calendar											