

## The Bible in a Year

The word “Bible” is simply Greek for “Library”. It’s a collection of 66 books and letters, originally written in ancient Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek, brought together by the early Christian Church and translated into Latin, and then more recently into many other modern languages. Although the individual books and letters were written independently of one another by many different human writers, we believe them to be inspired by God and together to form a unified story—relating how God created the world, and initiated a rescue plan after mankind rejected God’s way. It’s God’s written communication to us and, as a whole unit, is vital for a proper understanding of God and our relationship with Him.

As Christians we pursue the way of Jesus Christ and his first followers, as recorded in the 29 New Testament books and letters. So is the rather complex and sometimes tedious Old Testament irrelevant today? It’s worth remembering that Jesus had only the 39 Old Testament books and spent years studying them, as did Paul and the other leaders of the first churches.

TheBibleProject.com has several short videos which explain the origins of the Bible and the unified story of how God’s plan for mankind unfolds. Go to their website and look for:

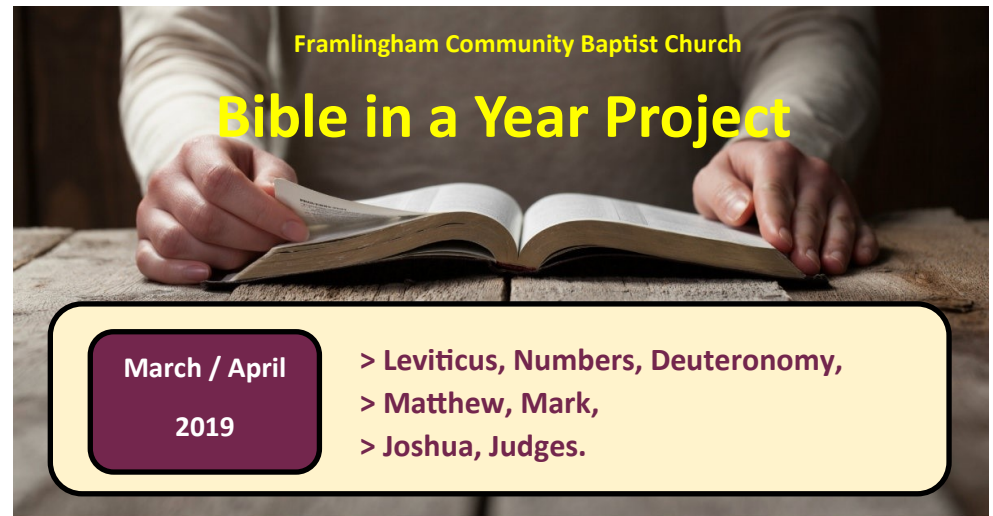
- What is the Bible
- The story of the Bible
- The Old Testament overview
- The New Testament overview

### Suggestions for Bible Reading

So, how has this project been working for you? If it’s a struggle, don’t forget that help is at hand. Maybe a re-assessment of your daily routine will create time and opportunity to spend on Bible Reading and prayer. Or maybe the use of an audio Bible on CDs will help. Alternatively you could search for *YouVersion.com* on the internet and you can download words and audio files onto a phone or tablet. Listening rather than reading might help—especially if time is limited and you can multi-task! Listening to larger chunks once a week might allow you to keep up.

Questions may arise or insights might come as you read or listen. This is where a note book is useful. Your notes can then be shared with others on Sundays or Thursday evenings!

Ultimately, of course, we have the promises of God. If He is real and keeps His word, then we can expect His help. Check John 14: 26 and 16: 13-15. The Holy Spirit will help us but He won’t do all the work. Reading and prayerful meditation is down to us!



We continue our Bible reading plan designed to take us through the whole Bible in one year. Each day read a few chapters, pray over a Psalm, and watch occasional YouTube videos from [www.thebibleproject.com](http://www.thebibleproject.com). The plan for March and April, which we have adapted from [readthescriptures.org](http://readthescriptures.org) is set out in the centre pages.

Having started with **Luke** and **Acts** (Luke’s accounts of the life of Jesus and the spread of the Jesus movement), we went back to the beginning - **Genesis** - to see how God created the earth and, when mankind rejected His rule, initiated a rescue plan using the family of Abraham. After rescuing his descendants from slavery in Egypt - **Exodus** - we saw how God drew up a covenant (like a business partnership) through which the Israelites would demonstrate, for the benefit of all nations, what life under God’s protection and blessing would be like.

We now conclude our look at **Leviticus** as we enter the month of March, and continue through **Numbers** and **Deuteronomy**. This raises big questions. Are the rules and regulations about lifestyle and worship—including the Ten Commandments - applicable to non-Jewish people today? If not, is there anything we can learn from them anyway? This troubled the early church - especially non-Jewish Christians - and confuses many today. We hope to address these questions in our Sunday services in March and can discuss them further on Thursday evenings.

April sees us renew our grasp of the life and teachings of Jesus as we read through the gospels of **Matthew** and **Mark** before returning to the Old Testament to look at the accounts of the successes and failures of the Israelites to live in their new territory under the guidance of **Joshua** and the **Judges**.

March 2019		Reading	Psalms	Bible Project Video	Note
Fri	1	Leviticus 14-15	60		
Sat	2	Lev 16-18	61		
Sun	3	Lev 19-20	62		
Mon	4	Lev 21-23	63		
Tue	5	Lev 24-25	64		
Wed	6	Lev 26-27	65		
Thu	7	Numbers 1-4	66	Numbers	In Old T. Read Scripture series
Fri	8	Numbers 5-7	67	Holiness	In Themes series
Sat	9	Numbers 8-10	68	Numbers	In Torah series
Sun	10	Numbers 11-13	69		
Mon	11	Numbers 14-16	70		
Tue	12	Numbers 17-18	71		
Wed	13	Numbers 19-21	72		
Thu	14	Numbers 22-24	73		
Fri	15	Numbers 25-27	74		
Sat	16	Numbers 28-30	75		
Sun	17	Numbers 31-32	76		
Mon	18	Numbers 33-34	77		
Tue	19	Numbers 35-36	78		
Wed	20	Deut 1-3	79	Deuteronomy	In Old T. Read Scripture series
Thu	21	Deut 4-6	80	Shema: Listen	In Word Studies series
Fri	22	Deut 7-9	81	YHWH: Lord	In Word Studies series
Sat	23	Deut 10-12	82	Ahawah: Love	In Word Studies series
Sun	24	Deut 13-14	83	Lev: Heart	In Word Studies series
Mon	25	Deut 15-16	84	Nephesh: Soul	In Word Studies series
Tues	26	Deut 17-20	85	Meod: Strength	In Word Studies series
Wed	27	Deut 21-23	86	The Law	In Biblical Theme series
Thu	28	Deut 24-27	87	Deuteronomy	In Torah series
Fri	29	Deut 28-29	88		
Sat	30	Deut 30-31	89		
Sun	31	Deut 32-34	90		

April 2019		Reading	Psalms	Bible Project Video	Note
Mon	1	Matthew 1-2	91	Matthew	In New Testament series
Tue	2	Matt 3-4	92		
Wed	3	Matt 5-6	93		
Thu	4	Matt 7-8	94		
Fri	5	Matt 9-10	95		
Sat	6	Matt 11-12	96		
Sun	7	Matt 13-14	97		
Mon	8	Matt 15-16	98		
Tue	9	Matt 17-18	99		
Wed	10	Matt 19-20	100		
Thu	11	Matt 21-22	101		
Fri	12	Matt 23-24	102		
Sat	13	Matt 25-26	103		
Sun	14	Matt 27-28	104		
Mon	15	Mark 1-2	105	Mark	In New Testament series
Tue	16	Mark 3-4	106		
Wed	17	Mark 5-6	107		
Thu	18	Mark 7-8	108		
Fri	19	Mark 9-10	109		
Sat	20	Mark 11-12	110		
Sun	21	Mark 13-14	111		
Mon	22	Mark 15-16	112		
Tues	23	Joshua 1-4	113	Joshua	In Old T. Read Scripture series
Wed	24	Joshua 5-8	114		
Thu	25	Joshua 9-12	115		
Fri	26	Joshua 13-21	116		
Sat	27	Joshua 22-24	117	The Covenants	In Themes series
Sun	28	Judges 1-3	118	Judges	In Old T. Read Scripture series
Mon	29	Judges 4-5	119: 1-32		
Tue	30	Judges 6-8	119: 33-64		