



## Customized Reading Plan

Our hope is to see each believer, or disciple, fully experiencing all that the Lord has in store for them in his plan for his kingdom, and we believe that starts with the daily practice of key spiritual disciplines.

The first of these being Bible Engagement.

Research shows that daily Bible engagement is the number one indicator to a believer's consistent growth and maturity as a follower of Jesus. We believe that the Bible influences all other spiritual disciplines such as prayer, acts of service, generosity, etc. and our goal is to see each member of our church engaged daily in the Word of God.

For some D-Groups, the leader may feel the need, or have the preference, to walk through a more customized journey of the scriptures. While we always suggest our churchwide annual Bible reading plan, or other plans that already map out an entire year for a D-Group, we also want to give freedom to each group/leader as they determine what scriptures to read together.

If you are looking to form your own plan, here are a few simple suggestions/tips to help:

1. **Stick to the Scriptures** – while there are certainly other great resources and books to read on Christianity, Theology, Discipleship, etc. our desire is that all D-Groups use the Bible as their curriculum.
2. **Do not play ping-pong** – while there are many beautiful and powerful standalone verses in the Bible, we also know that context is key in understanding and applying the whole counsel of God's Word in our lives. Whether it's Old Testament, New Testament, or a mix of both just be sure you are leading your group in seeing the whole narrative and/or point of a passage, and that they are able to grasp all that surrounds a particular verse and not just a single sentence that can be misinterpreted.
3. **Plan your work and work your plan** – pick a book of the Bible, or several if you want to plan out months at a time, and tell your group what to read and when (i.e. what chapters/verses and on what days). While some struggle with giving direction, giving your group a clear structure and plan will pay dividends in the end. Otherwise, we as humans tend to drift and will slip in holding one another accountable without a clear roadmap.

Remember, accountability is key in the success of a group, and is always a benefit to both the group members and the group leader!