

POY!  
jit 3d 11

## **Bible Readings for Family and Group Discussion**

The readings come from all parts of the Bible and depict activities that God requires of believers.

### **Choose readings from the level of those you teach.**

Readings are listed in three sections: *Beginners*, *The Growing*, and *The Mature*.

### **Prepare.**

To enhance participation, study a reading by yourself first, and then lead discussion when you meet as a small group or family.

### **Tell folks what to listen for, before reading or telling a Bible story.**

In the studies below, see the word *Find* above Scripture references. *Find* indicates something to listen for. Example: Before reading Solomon's moving prayer in 2 Chronicles 1:16-12, ask folks to find examples of things that a leader of God's people should ask in prayer, and folks will then listen more attentively.

### **Discuss.**

After reading a Scripture or telling a Bible story, ask questions such as...

1. What vital truths did you find?
2. What did you learn about God?
3. What does God want us to do about it?
4. What was hard to understand?

### **Include the whole family.**

[*Kids*] in brackets before a Scripture reference indicates a story for both children and adults. Some stories are repeated, from two or more Gospels. Children need repetition.

### **Select readings that fit needs or interests of your group or family.**

Use this list of readings as a menu. Do not try to read every passage listed under each item.

1. Seek God's Will and Plan Accordingly
2. Triumph Through Prayer
3. Tell Others About Jesus
4. Be Baptized and Added to Jesus' Church
5. Pray for the Sick and Demon Oppressed
6. Make it Easy to Tell Others About Jesus
7. Learn to Live the Christian Life Victoriously, by Faith
8. Love God and our Neighbor in a Practical Way
9. Read and Apply the Bible to our Lives
10. Get Along with our Brothers in Christ and Worship Together
11. Celebrate Family Devotions
12. Organize the Church
13. Develop loving Fellowship in the Family of God
14. Visit and Encourage our Brothers in Christ

## Bible Readings for Family and Group Discussion

15. Develop Generous Stewardship
16. Prepare to Serve Christ
17. Mobilize New Pastoral Trainers
18. Train Those who Have the Apostolic (Missionary) Gift
19. Develop Prayer in the Church
20. Take the Good News to New Places and People
21. Strengthen the Church and Plant Churches
22. Make Disciples
23. Apply Basic Doctrines to our Lives
24. Face False Teaching and Wrong Church Practices
25. Face Opposition and Persecution
26. Mobilize the Congregation for Discipling and Serving
27. Gather for Public Worship and Special Celebrations
28. Appreciate God's Presence with us
29. Shepherd the People of God
30. Plan Well our Time Schedules
31. Have Orderly Meetings for Church Business.
32. Have Activities for Fellowship and Fun
33. Resolve Disputes and Divisions
34. Strengthen Family Life
35. Strengthen each Other's Love
36. Apply Biblical Discipline to the Congregation
37. Give Member Care to those who have Personal or Family Problems
38. Train Care Givers at a Basic Level
39. Encourage and Pray for the Sick
40. Bring Freedom to any who are Oppressed by Demons
41. Help the Needy
42. Support Pastors and Christian Workers
43. Develop the Gifts and Ministries of the Believers
44. Use Teamwork in Ministry to Edify Others
45. Evangelize and Teach Children
46. Young People Serve and Make Disciples
47. Fulfill Christian Social Duties
48. Select and Train New Pastoral Level Students
49. Mobilize Pastoral Students as Pastoral Trainers
50. Teach the Missionary Task, Focus on the World
51. Train Missionaries
52. Pray with more Power
53. Disciple People in New Areas and Cultures
54. Coordinate the Multiplication of Churches
55. Keep Multiplying House Churches or Cell Groups
56. Strengthen Bible Study and Application
57. Organize United Celebrations Between Churches
58. Strengthen the Ministry of Music
59. Improve the Preaching
60. Establish Discipling Networks among Leaders
61. Develop Fellowship Between Churches
62. Strengthen Fellowship Between New and Old Believers
63. Develop Member Care for those with Personal or Family Problems
64. Develop Fellowship Between Churches
65. Cultivate Fellowship Between Older AND Newer Brothers
66. Help Those with Very Difficult Problems
67. Evaluate, Reorganize AND Extend Existing Ministries
68. Form Discipling Chains to Train Leaders over a Wide Area
69. Strengthen Pastors and Elders of All the Churches
70. Send Missionaries

## Bible Readings for Family and Group Discussion

### LEVEL 1: BEGINNERS

#### 1. Seek God's will and plan accordingly

Find:

*[Kids]* In 2 Chronicles 1:6-12, what a leader of God's people should ask in prayer.

*[Kids]* In Matthew 26:36-46, how we submit in prayer, to the will of God.

#### 2. Triumph through Prayer

Find:

*[Kids]* In Genesis 18:16-33, how Abraham triumphed in prayer.

*[Kids]* In Luke 18:1-8, how the widow triumphed with her pleas.

#### 3. Tell Others About Jesus

Find:

In Genesis chapters 1-3, how Adam caused all mankind to fall.

*[Kids]* In Genesis chapter 3, how the devil tempted Adam and Eve.

*[Kids]* In Genesis 4, what was sacrificed for a man's sin, and why Cain became angry.

*[Kids]* In Matthew 4:1-11, the difference between Adam and Jesus, in their response to temptation.

*[Kids]* In Mark 14:1-9, how we should feel about Jesus when we think of how and why He died.

*[Kids]* In Mark 14:10-31, what Jesus said and did when He showed us how to have Communion.

*[Kids]* In Mark 14:26-31 with 66-72 (after Jesus' arrest), how Peter broke his promise to God.

*[Kids]* In Mark 14:32-42, Jesus' supreme act of obedience to His Father

*[Kids]* In Mark 14:43-52, how they arrested and tried Jesus, why they sentenced Him to die

*[Kids]* In Mark 15:1-20, what they did to Jesus before they killed Him

*[Kids]* In Mark 15:21-41, things that happened when Jesus died

#### 4. Be Baptized and Added to Jesus' Church

Find:

In Genesis chapters 5-9: 1) why the Most Holy God gets angry with people, and 2) what He did in Noah's time.

*[Kids]* In Genesis 6:9-14; 7:1-24; 8:15-22, find how God saved some people, who, why and what else was in the boat.

In Exodus chapters 14-15, how the Israelites escaped from slavery.

*[Kids]* In Exodus chapter 14, what God did to save His people from Pharaoh, the angry king.

In Acts 16:19-40, several things that happened that started the new church in Philippi.

*[Kids]* In Acts 16: 19-34, who received baptism, when, and why.

In Rom. 5:12 through 6:14, how baptism in Jesus leaves us changed.

## **Bible Readings for Family and Group Discussion**

### **5. Pray for the Sick and Demon Oppressed**

Find:

In 2 Kings 4, several unusual things that happened.

*[Kids]* In 2 Kings 4:17-37, how Elijah dealt with the dead child.

*[Kids]* In Acts 16:16-18, What Paul did to cast out the demon.

In Ephesians 6:10-20, the purposes of the different pieces of the armor of God.

### **6. Make it Easy to Tell Others About Jesus**

Find:

*[Kids]* In Joshua 1:1-11, how we should think, to conquer for Jesus.

In Genesis 10.1 through 12.3 (compare with Galatians 3:8-9 & 13-14), how nations began and how they will be blessed.

*[Kids]* In Genesis 11:1-9 and 12:1-3: 1) how God separated the people of different nations, and 2) through whom He would bless all nations.

In Luke 10:1-24, what Jesus orders us to do as we announce His kingdom.

In Luke chapters 23-24, the basic story of the good news of the gospel.

*[Kids]* In Luke 23:1-25, why the king and governor let the religious leaders turn Jesus over to be killed.

*[Kids]* In Luke 23:26-43, what Jesus said when He was hanging from the cross.

*[Kids]* In Luke 23:44-56, what the Roman Captain thought about Jesus, where Jesus was buried.

*[Kids]* In Luke 24:1-12, how they first knew that Jesus had risen from the dead.

*[Kids]* In Luke 24:13-35, how two disciples recognized the risen Christ.

*[Kids]* In Luke 24:36-44, how the risen Lord proved to His disciples that He was not a ghost.

*[Kids]* In Luke 24:45-53, what we should explain to others about Jesus, and where He is now.

*[Kids]* In Matthew 13:24-43 and Rev. 20:11-15, what will happen to people who reject God.

### **7. Learn to Live the Christian Life Victoriously, by Faith**

Find:

In Genesis chapters 12-19, important things that Abraham did.

*[Kids]* In Genesis 12:1-3 & 7-9, God's promise to Abraham.

*[Kids]* In Genesis 12:10-20, Abraham's foolish lie.

*[Kids]* In Genesis 13:1-18, how Abraham avoided a quarrel with his nephew.

*[Kids]* In Genesis 14:1-24, how Abraham freed his nephew.

*[Kids]* In Genesis 15:1-21, what Abraham did, that God considered him to be righteous, and what God promised.

*[Kids]* In Genesis 18:1-15, why Sarah laughed and what the angel said about it.

*[Kids]* In Genesis 18:16-33, how Abraham saved his nephew again.

*[Kids]* In Genesis 19:1-29, what happened to some very bad people.

*[Kids]* In Matthew 28:16-20, what a new disciple of Jesus is to do.

In 1 Tim. 3:16-17, the purpose of all Bible teaching (see v. 17).

## **Bible Readings for Family and Group Discussion**

*[Kids]* In Mark (the entire book), major events in the life of Jesus (jot them down). (*Nearly every chapter has stories that are excellent for children.*)

### **8. Love God and Our Neighbor in a Practical Way**

Find:

*[Kids]* In 1 Samuel 24, how David showed his love for his enemy.

*[Kids]* In Luke 10:25-37, how we show true Christian love for our neighbor.

### **9. Read and Apply the Bible to Our Lives**

Find:

In Nehemiah 8 (*[Kids]* verses 1-6), what was done so that the people applied the Bible to their lives.

*[Kids]* In Matthew 7:24-26, what happens if we learn the Bible without practicing it.

*[Kids]* In Matthew 15:1-20, how we corrupt ourselves, if we use the Bible incorrectly.

In 1 Peter 1:22 through 2:3, what the Word of God does for us.

In Rev. 22:18-19, a warning against changing Word of God.

### **10. Get along with Our Brothers in Christ and Worship Together**

Find:

In Genesis chapters 20-36, good attitudes toward God, for worship.

*[Kids]* In Genesis 21:22-34, what Abraham and Abimelech did, to live together in peace.

*[Kids]* In Genesis 22:1-18, how God tested Abraham's faith.

*[Kids]* In Genesis 24:1-67, how God provided a wife for Isaac.

*[Kids]* In Genesis 25:27-34, how Jacob tricked Esau into giving him his rights as first-born (for a special inheritance).

*[Kids]* In Genesis 27:1-40, how Jacob tricked his dying father into giving him his brother's blessing.

*[Kids]* In Genesis 32:22-32, how Jacob and his descendants received the name "*Israel*."

*[Kids]* In Genesis 33:1-20, what Jacob did so that his brother Esau would forgive him.

In Exodus chapters 16-17, with what attitude we are to receive what God provides (compare John 6).

*[Kids]* In Exodus 16:1-35, how God provided food for His people in the desert.

*[Kids]* In Exodus 17:1-7, how God provided water for His people in the desert.

*[Kids]* In Exodus 17:8-16, what happened when Moses' arms fell, what they did about it.

*[Kids]* In John 6:1-15, how Jesus provided food for the people in the desert.

*[Kids]* In John 6:22-69, the food and drink that lets us live forever

In Exodus chapters 25-27 and 33:7-10, the form of the old sanctuary, priests' duties.

*[Kids]* In Acts 2:36-47, what they did in the worship services of the first church.

In 1 Cor. 11 and Hebrews 10:25, guidelines for attending and celebrating worship.

### **11. Celebrate Family Devotions**

Find:

*[Kids]* In Joshua 24:15 and Job 1:5, what Joshua and Job did with their children.

*[Kids]* In Luke 18:15-17 and Ephesians 6:4, what we should do with the children.

## **Bible Readings for Family and Group Discussion**

In John (the entire book), stories of Jesus, to tell to our families. *Nearly every chapter has stories that are excellent for children.*

### **12. Organize the Church**

Find:

[Kids] In Exodus 18:13-27, how they shared the pastoral work.

In Nehemiah chapters 3-4, how they divided the work among many.

In 1 Corinthians chapters 12-13, how the work of the Body of Christ is coordinated.

[Kids] In Acts chapters 1-12, examples of how God disciplined and governed His new church (*Nearly every chapter has stories that are excellent for children.*)

### **13. Develop Loving Fellowship in the Family of God**

Find:

[Kids] In Genesis 37-50 (select key portions) Joseph's love for his family (relate his adventures).

[Kids] In Matthew 26:17-30, what Jesus orders us to do in worship.

In John 13:34-35, Eph. 4:31-32, 1 John chapters 1-5, guidelines for fellowship.

In Ephesians (select key portions from the entire book), guidelines to cultivate love for God and others.

### **14. Visit and Encourage our Brothers in Christ**

Find:

[Kids] In Genesis 18:1-15, what the visiting angel promised Abraham and Sarah.

[Kids] In Acts 9:36-43 (compare James 1:27), why Peter visited Dorcas.

### **15. Develop Generous Stewardship**

Find:

[Kids] In Genesis 14:17-24 (compare Malachi 3:10), what Abraham gave to the priest Melchizedek.

In Exodus chapters 35-36, why Moses prohibited that they give more offerings.

[Kids] In Luke 21:1-4, how God calculates the amount that we give to Him.

[Kids] In Acts 8:4-25 (compare 2 Cor. 9:6-8), the correct attitude for giving.

### **16. Prepare to Serve Christ**

Find:

In Exodus chapters 1-10 (compare 2 Tim. 2:2), how God prepared, called and used Moses.

[Kids] In Exodus 1:1-22, why Pharaoh wanted to kill the children.

[Kids] In Exodus 2:1-10, how the baby Moses was saved from Pharaoh.

[Kids] In Exodus 2:11-25, why the man Moses ran away from Egypt and how he found friends.

[Kids] In Exodus 3:1 through 4:17, how God called Moses and what He sent Him to do.

[Kids] In Exodus 5:1 through 6:1, how Pharaoh hardened his heart against God.

## **Bible Readings for Family and Group Discussion**

*[Kids]* In Exodus chapters 6-11, how the different plagues affected Pharaoh and the people. *All these chapters have stories for the children; be sure to emphasize the last plague, the death of the firstborn, in chapter 11.*

In 1 Timothy, find basic guidelines for shepherding others.

### **17. Mobilize New Pastoral Trainers**

Find:

In Exodus chapters 12-20 (compare Titus 1:5), how Moses mobilized others to lead.

*[Kids]* In Exodus 12:1-36, how the death angel knew when to pass over a house

*[Kids]* In Exodus 12:37-51, what the original Passover feast celebrated,

*[Kids]* In Exodus 13:17 through 14:31, how God rescued His people from the Egyptian army

*[Kids]* In Exodus 18:13-27, what Jethro told Moses to do, to shepherd all the people

*[Kids]* In Exodus 19:1-25, how God prepared the new elders and His people, to receive His law.

*[Kids]* In Exodus 20:1-21, the main commands of God for His people of the Old Testament

In 1 and 2 Timothy, how Paul prepared Timothy to lead (principles of leadership).

### **18. Train Those Who Have the Apostolic (Missionary) Gift**

Find:

*[Kids]* In Genesis 12:1-3 (compare Matthew 28:18-20), the promise to bless all nations.

*[Kids]* In Acts 10, guidelines for missionary work.

## **LEVEL 2: THE GROWING**

### **19. Develop Prayer in the Church**

Find:

In Daniel, examples of the faith of Daniel and his companions.

*[Kids]* In Daniel, 1:1-21, how Daniel and his companions stayed in good health

*[Kids]* In Daniel, 2:1-49, what the king's dream meant, what happened when Daniel explained it

*[Kids]* In Daniel, 3:1-30, what God did for the three boys who prayed to the one true God

*[Kids]* In Daniel 6:1-28 (compare 1 Thessalonians 5:17), how Daniel showed faith and courage.

In Daniel 9 (compare Ephesians 1:15-23), what the leader asks for his people.

In John 17, what Jesus asked for Himself and for us.

In 1 John 1:8-10 through 2:2, guidelines for the confession of sins.

## Bible Readings for Family and Group Discussion

### 20. Take the Good News to New Places and People

Find:

- [Kids] In Joshua 10, the example of obedience when Joshua conquered the idolaters.  
In Isaiah 52:13 through 53:12, old prophecies of the redemptive work of Jesus.
- [Kids] In Matthew 13 examples from God's natural creation of how churches grow and multiply.
- [Kids] In John 4, the vision Jesus wants us to have, for harvesting peoples in other places.
- [Kids] In Acts 8:26-40, an example of how to use the Bible to witness for Jesus.
- [Kids] In Acts chapters 13-14, guidelines for a missionary team sent by a church (Both chapters have stories that are good for children).
- [Kids] In Luke (select key portions from the entire book), the most important events in the life of Jesus (jot them down). *(Nearly every chapter has stories good for children.)*

### 21. Strengthen the Church and Plant New Churches

Find:

- [Kids] In Joshua 1, how Joshua was commissioned to be the commander, and how he prepared the troops.  
In Matthew chapters 26-28 (compare Galatians 1:6-12), all that Jesus did, to save us from our sins and establish His church.
- [Kids] In Matthew 26:1-13, what a woman did to prepare Jesus for His death and burial
- [Kids] In Matthew 26:14-29, how Holy Communion was established
- [Kids] In Matthew 26:36-46, what Jesus did not want to do
- [Kids] In Matthew 26:14-16 & 47-56, why they found it easy to arrest Jesus and what He did
- [Kids] In Matthew 26:57-68, what happened at Jesus' trial, and why the High Priest got angry
- [Kids] In Matthew 26:30-35 & 69-75 and 27:1-2, what Peter did, that he regretted later
- [Kids] In Matthew 27:3-10, what happened to Judas
- [Kids] In Matthew 27:11-31, what Pilate did to defend Jesus, and the result
- [Kids] In Matthew 27:32-44, what Jesus' enemies said to mock Him as he hung nailed to the cross
- [Kids] In Matthew 27:45-61, things that happened when Jesus died
- [Kids] In Matthew 27:62 through 28:10, what the greatest miracle of all time was
- [Kids] In Matthew 28:16-20, what Jesus commands His church to do
- [Kids] In Acts 2, what the Holy Spirit enabled them to do to form the church.

### 22. Make Disciples

Find:

- In Exodus chapters 21-40, rules for the discipling of the ancient nation of Israel.
- [Kids] In Exodus 31:18 through 32:35, why God wanted to destroy the people and what Moses did to change God's mind
- [Kids] In Mark 3:13-19, reasons why Jesus named the twelve Apostles.
- [Kids] In Matthew, guidelines from Jesus' example, for making disciples. *(Nearly every chapter has stories that are good for children.)*



## Bible Readings for Family and Group Discussion

### 23. Apply Basic Doctrines to our Lives

Find:

In Genesis chapters 37-45, in what ways were the lives of Joseph and Jesus similar? (Joseph was a "type" of Jesus; his life contained many parallels with that of Jesus.)

*[Kids]* In Genesis 37:1-36, why Joseph's brothers envied him and what they did to him

*[Kids]* In Genesis 39:1-23, why Joseph was put in prison

*[Kids]* In Genesis 41:1-55, how Joseph came to be governor

*[Kids]* In chapters 42-45 (select portions of a length that children will pay attention to):

a) What did Joseph do to save his brothers,

b) What did Joseph do, or had happen to him, that Jesus also did or have happen.

*[Kids]* In Exodus 20, the basis of the old covenant, which the people could not keep.

In Romans, steps in the Christian life toward maturity.

In Colossians, guidelines for a life of truth and holiness.

In 1 Thessalonians, examples of encouraging our brothers in Christ.

### 24. Face False Teaching or Wrong Church Practices

Find:

In Exodus chapters 32-34 (review--compare 1 John 4:1-3), why God wanted to destroy His people, what Moses did for them.

In Jeremiah (the entire book), how God uses leaders to deal with error (list several things).

In Obadiah (the entire book), how God punished rebellious people in the Old Testament.

*[Kids]* In Acts 5:1-11, how God punished liars in the New Testament.

In 2 Thessalonians, the main error that Paul corrected.

In 1 Peter 1:1-12, how to think about problems and persecution

In 1 Peter 1:13-25, results of following God's Word

In 1 Peter chapters 2-5, several guidelines for victorious living and leading others

In 2 Peter, 2 and 3 John and Judas (the entire books), guidelines for avoiding error.

### 25. Face Opposition and Persecution

Find:

In 1 Samuel chapters 17-22, several ways in which David dealt with unjust opposition.

*[Kids]* In 1 Samuel 16:1-13, how God chose David as a leader of His people.

In Joshua, examples of how Joshua faced the enemies of God.

*[Kids]* In Joshua 1:1-18, how God prepared Joshua to lead His people.

*[Kids]* In Joshua 2:1-24, what Rahab did to help God's people, and what they promised her.

*[Kids]* In Joshua 3:1-4:9, the order in which they crossed the river, to conquer the Promised Land.

*[Kids]* In Joshua 6:1-27, their tactics for attacking Jericho.

## Bible Readings for Family and Group Discussion

[Kids] In Joshua 7:1-26, the cause of their defeat at Ai, and what they had to do to correct it.

[Kids] In Joshua 8:1-29, what happened the second time they attacked Ai.

In Lamentations (select key portions from the entire book), how Jeremiah lamented the fall of Jerusalem.

[Kids] In Mark 14:53-65, what Jesus did when they persecuted Him, and why they sentenced Him to death.

In Matthew 5:11-12; 10:17-20, what to do when we are persecuted.

[Kids] In Acts 7:1 through 8:1, why they killed Stephen, how they did it, and who stood there approving of it.

[Kids] In Acts 9:1-35, 1) what God stopped Saul from doing, 2) what Ananias did, and 3) what Saul did as soon as He could see.

### 26. Mobilize the Congregation for Discipling and Serving

Find:

In Deuteronomy, reasons to know and obey the Word of God.

[Kids] In Deuteronomy 1:19-46, why God punished His people making them wander 40 years in the desert.

[Kids] In Deuteronomy 6:4-9, what the Israelites were to teach their children, and how often.

In Acts 2:46-47, where they taught the Word, and with what results.

### 27. Gather for Public Worship and Special Celebrations

Find:

[Kids] In Exodus chapters 12-13, how they celebrated the Passover the first time.

In Leviticus chapters 1-22, the form of the worship service of the Old Testament.

[Kids] In Exodus 10:1-20 with 16:1-7 & 15-19,

a) Why Aaron's sons had to die,

b) Rules made afterwards, for entering the most Holy Place.

In Numbers chapters 5-10, different rules for leading Old Testament worship.

In Numbers 6:22-27, a blessing for ministers to give God's people

In 2 Chronicles chapters 5-6, things that happened in a special worship service.

[Kids] In 2 Chronicles 5:2-14, how they worshipped God, and how He responded

[Kids] In Matthew 17:1-13, how God glorified Jesus before His disciples.

[Kids] In Mark 14:1-31, the importance of the Last Supper.

### 28. Appreciate God's Presence with Us

Find:

In Matthew chapters 1-2, major events before and after Jesus' birth

[Kids] In Matthew 1:18-25, what the angel told Joseph to do.

[Kids] In Matthew 2:1-23, what the wise men gave Jesus, why Joseph took him and Mary to Egypt.

## Bible Readings for Family and Group Discussion

In Matthew Luke chapters 1-2, events related to Jesus' birth that Matthew did not mention.

[Kids] In Matthew 1:26-38, what the angel told Mary, and what she answered.

[Kids] In Matthew 2:1-20, what the angels told the shepherds and what they did.

[Kids] In Matthew 2:21-35, what Simeon said about the baby Jesus and about what would happen to His mother Mary.

[Kids] In Matthew 2:39-52, what happened when they visited Jerusalem.

[Kids] In 2 Kings 4:8-37, blessings for both Elisha and the Shunamite, due to his visit.

In Matthew 10:5-15, guidelines for visiting and evangelizing.

[Kids] In 2 Kings 4:8-37, blessings for both Elisha and the Shunamite, due to his visit.

In Matthew 10:5-15, guidelines for visiting and evangelizing.

[Kids] In 2 Kings 4:8-37, blessings for both Elisha and the Shunamite, due to his visit.

In Matthew 10:5-15, guidelines for visiting and evangelizing.

In Matthew chapters 21-28, the main things that happened during Holy Week (the week before Jesus died)--(list them).

[Kids] In Matthew 21:1-11, what happened when Jesus came to Jerusalem.

[Kids] In Matthew 21:12, what Jesus did that made the religious leaders mad.

[Kids] In Matthew 25:31-47, how Jesus said the nations would be judged.

[Kids] In Matthew 26:1-5, what the religious leaders planned during Holy Week.

[Kids] In Matthew 26:17-29, what happened during Jesus' last supper before His death

[Kids] In Matthew 27:15-31, why the authorities agreed to have the Roman soldiers kill Jesus.

[Kids] In Matthew 27:32-61, unusual things that happened when Jesus was put to death.

In John chapters 12-21, more events during Holy Week that Matthew did not mention.

[Kids] In John 13:1-20, what Jesus did that surprised His disciples, and why He did it.

[Kids] In John 18:25-19:16, what Pilate did to get the people to stop accusing Jesus, and why he failed.

[Kids] In John 19:17-37, more things that happened when Jesus was put to death.

[Kids] In John 19:28-42, more things that happened after Jesus was put to death.

[Kids] In John 20:1-18, who saw Jesus first after He rose from the dead, and what He said.

[Kids] In John 20:19-29, how Jesus removed Thomas' doubts.

[Kids] In John 21:1-14, what Jesus did the third time He met with His disciples after He rose from the dead.

[Kids] In John 21:15-25, how Jesus let John know He had forgiven him for denying Him.

In 1 Corinthians 14, guidelines to worship in an orderly way.

In 1 Timothy 2, more guidelines to worship in an orderly way.

## 29. Shepherd the People of God

Find:

In Numbers chapters 1-4, duties of the Levites (ministers in the Old Testament).

[Kids] In Numbers 20:1-13, how Moses and Aaron misused their authority.

[Kids] In 1 Samuel 16:1-13, how David was chosen, as a leader of God's people

## **Bible Readings for Family and Group Discussion**

In 1 Tim. 3, qualifications for shepherding elders and for deacons (helpers, persons who take care of physical needs).

### **30. Plan Well Our Time Schedules**

Find:

In Ecclesiastes, why we gain nothing if we only seek common pleasures.  
In Eph. 5:15-17, guidelines to evaluate how we use the time God gives us.

### **31. Have Orderly Meetings for Church Business.**

Find:

*[Kids]* In 1 Kings 12:1-24, what happened in a business meeting that divided the people.  
In Acts 15, examples of guidelines to lead a meeting to resolve a conflict.

### **32. Have Activities for Fellowship and Fun**

Find:

In Leviticus chapters 23-27, the nature of the old festivals.  
In Philippians 2:1-12, what is true humility, and what is the greatest example of it.  
In Philippians, the kind of joy that we should have, and where it comes from.

### **33. Resolve Disputes and Divisions**

Find:

In Genesis 27-33, how the patriarchs caused, and solved, disputes.  
In Numbers 11-21, cases of rebellion and how God dealt with them.  
*[Kids]* In 11:1-23 & 31-33, what God did for those who demanded meat to eat.  
*[Kids]* In 12:1-16, what God did to Miriam when she complained about Moses' black wife.  
*[Kids]* In 16:1-50, how God punished those who rebelled with Korah.  
*[Kids]* In 21:4-9, how God punished the complainers, and how He healed them.  
In Philemon 1, how Paul got two brothers in Christ to be reconciled.

### **34. Strengthen Family Life**

Find:

In Genesis 1:27-28 and 2:18-25, the origin of the family and its purposes, guidelines for developing friendships, and examples of good and bad leadership.  
*[Kids]* In Genesis 1:1-28, Ana's prayer and how God answered it.  
*[Kids]* In Genesis 3:1-20, how God called Samuel to serve Him.  
*[Kids]* In Genesis 17:1-58, how God used the boy David to save Israel from the Philistines.  
*[Kids]* In Genesis 18:1 through 19:17, why David had to flee from King Saul and how he got away.  
*[Kids]* In Genesis 24:1-22, how David spared Saul's life and how Saul responded.  
In Ephesians 5:21 through 6:4, guidelines for keeping peace and order in the home.

### **35. Strengthen Each Other's Love**

Find:

In 2 Samuel (the entire book), good and bad examples of leadership.

## **Bible Readings for Family and Group Discussion**

*[Kids]* In 6:1-23, what happened when David took the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem.

*[Kids]* In 7:1-29, what God promised King David.

*[Kids]* In 9:1-13, what David did for Saul's lame son, and why.

*[Kids]* In 11:1 through 12:23, David's two-fold sin and punishment.

In Romans 12, guidelines to cultivate love between brothers in Christ.

In Matthew 10:5-15, guidelines for visiting and evangelizing.

### **36. Apply Biblical Discipline to the Congregation**

In Numbers chapters 21-26, how God protected His people from idolatry.

*[Kids]* In Numbers 4:1-24, what two women did to rescue Israel.

*[Kids]* In Numbers chapters 6-7, how Gideon delivered Israel.

*[Kids]* In 1 Kings 18, how God used Elijah to remove idolatry from Israel.

In Hebrews 12, why we should appreciate the God's punishment.

### **37. Give Member Care to any who Have Personal or Family Problems**

*[Kids]* In 1 Kings 19, physical, emotional, social and spiritual causes of Elijah's discouragement (look for the things he did and said, that would have caused him to be depressed).

In Galatians, the kind of faith that keeps us firm in our liberty in Christ.

### **38. Train Care Givers at a Basic Level**

In Job (the entire book), good and bad examples of how to deal with those who suffer.

In 1 and 2 Corinthians (both books), how Paul corrected grave errors.

### **39. Encourage and Pray for the Sick**

In Job chapters 1-3 and 42, the purpose and outcome, of Job's suffering.

*[Kids]* In Job chapters 1-2, 42:7-17, what God let Satan do to Job, and the outcome.

*[Kids]* In John 9, why the man was born blind, and why they expelled him from the synagogue.

In James 5:13-18, guidelines for dealing with the sick.

### **40. Bring Freedom to Any Who are Oppressed by Demons**

Find:

*[Kids]* In Mark 5:1-20 (compare Matthew 17:14-21), the authority of Jesus over demons.

### **41. Help the Needy**

*[Kids]* In Ruth (review the story), the results of the Boaz' kindness.

*[Kids]* In Acts 6:1-7 (compare Galatians 6:10), how we organize to deal with the needy.

### **42. Support Pastors and Christian Workers**

Find:

In Malachi (the entire book), warnings of God, including against robbing Him, in 3:6-12.

In 2 Corinthians chapters 8-9, more guidelines for giving and supporting ministers.

## **Bible Readings for Family and Group Discussion**

### **43. Develop the Gifts and Ministries of the Believers**

Find:

In Numbers 21-36, guidelines for leading the people of God.

In Ephesians 4, guidelines for using our spiritual gifts in an edifying way.

### **44. Use Teamwork in Ministry to Edify Others**

Find:

In 1 Chronicles 11, how David's companions worked in loving harmony.

*[Kids]* In Acts 13:1-5 (compare Acts 10:23), how a church formed a missionary team.

### **45. Evangelize and Teach Children**

Find:

In Deuteronomy 6 (compare 1 John 2:12-14), guidelines for instructing children.

### **46. Young People Serve and Make Disciples**

Find:

In Proverbs (the entire book), guidelines for young people for a holy life.

In Ephesians 6:1-3, more guidelines for young people for a holy life.

### **47. Fulfill Christian Social Duties**

Find:

Habakkuk (the entire book), duties and warnings of the leaders and people, for a just society.

### **48. Select and Train New Pastoral Level Students**

Find:

*[Kids]* In Leviticus chapters 10 and 16, compared with Hebrews chapters 8-9, 1) the seriousness of Christian ministry, and 2) ways in which Jesus' work is similar *and* different from that of Old Testament priests.

*[Kids]* In 1 Kings (the entire book), good and bad examples of government. (Many of its chapters have stories that are good for children.)

In Micah, more examples of good and bad government, and warnings.

In 2 Timothy (the whole book), more guidelines for new ministers and workers.

### **49. Mobilize Pastoral Students as Pastoral Trainers**

Find:

*[Kids]* In 1 Sam. 16, the basis for choosing a future leader of the people of God.

*[Kids]* In 2 Kings, good and bad examples of leadership for the people of God. (Many of the chapters have stories that are good for children.)

In Titus (the entire book), guidelines for naming and mobilizing leaders in the churches.

### **50. Teach the Missionary Task, Focus on the World**

Find:

*[Kids]* In Genesis 24, an example (illustration) of going far away to bring people to Christ.

## **Bible Readings for Family and Group Discussion**

*[Kids]* In Acts chapters 13-14, major events in Paul's first missionary trip. *(Select portions for the children.)*

### **51. Train Missionaries**

Find:

*[Kids]* In Jonah (the entire book), how God prepared the primer missionary to go to a very pagan people group. *(Select portions for the children.)*

*[Kids]* In Acts chapters 15-28, the main events related to the apostolic team's missionary work. *(Select portions for the children.)*

## **LEVEL 3: THE MATURE**

### **52. Pray with More Power**

Find:

In Psalms 1-41, kinds of prayers (praise, complaint, confession, etc.)

*[Kids]* In Esther (select key portions from the entire book), what God did for his people because of the prayers of the faithful.

In Joel (select key portions from the entire book), prophecies of the coming of the Holy Spirit and of the coming judgment.

In Eph. 3:14-21, what a Christian leader asks for his people.

In 1 Tim. 2:1-5, what the people ask, for the authorities.

In Hebrews (select key portions from the entire book), how Jesus serves as our defense attorney and High Priest before God the Father.

### **53. Disciple People in New Areas and Cultures**

Find:

*[Kids]* In Joshua 6, an example of faith and courage, for conquering new land for Jesus.

In Acts 1:8 (compare John 4:35), the different places where we are to witness for Jesus.

### **54. Coordinate the Multiplication of Churches**

Find:

*[Kids]* In Exodus 18 (compare Titus 1:5), an example of how to coordinate many new ministries.

*[Kids]* In Acts 10 through 11:18, guidelines to help a new congregation to be born.

### **55. Keep Multiplying House Churches or Cell Groups**

Find:

*[Kids]* In Acts 2:46-47 and 5:42 (compare Rom. 16:5), where they met for worship.

## **Bible Readings for Family and Group Discussion**

### **56. Strengthen Bible Study and Application**

Find:

In James (select key portions from the entire book), examples of the *practice* of the Word.

### **57. Organize United Celebrations between Churches**

Find:

*[Kids]* In 2 Chronicles 35:1-19 the benefits of gathering people from many places.

### **58. Strengthen the Ministry of Music**

Find:

*[Kids]* In 1 Chronicles 5:12-14 (compare Psalm 150), the effect of sacred music, with God.

In Psalms 73-89, the style of the old hymns (Psalms were Hebrew hymns).

In Eph. 5:17-20, important purposes of music.

### **59. Improve the Preaching**

Find:

In Ezekiel (select key portions from the entire book), examples of powerful messages (it is a book of messages).

In Revelation (compare Luke 21), prophecies of the final coming of Jesus.

### **60. Establish Discipling Networks among Leaders**

Find:

*[Kids]* In 1 Kings 12, the cause of the division of the ancient kingdom.

*[Kids]* In Nehemiah (the entire book; compare with Matthew 20:20-28), guidelines for supervising leaders.

*[Kids]* In Acts 20:17-38, examples of how a supervisor relates with other leaders.

### **61. Develop Fellowship between Churches**

Find:

In Hosea (the entire book; compare Psalm 133), how God expresses His desire for the unity of his people.

In John 17:20-23, what Jesus asked for His churches.

### **62. Strengthen Fellowship between New and Old Believers**

Find:

*[Kids]* In Matthew 20:1-16, the duty of the old members of the church with the new.

### **63. Develop Member Care for Persons with Personal or Family Problems**

Find:

In Psalms 90-106, expressions of healthy attitudes toward God and His works.

In Ephesians chapters 1-2, what a person is and has in Christ (make a list).

In Ephesians chapters 4-5, guidelines for forgiving and getting along with people and family.



## Bible Readings for Family and Group Discussion

### 64. Develop Fellowship Between Churches

Find:

In Hosea (the entire book; compare Psalm 133), how God wants his people to relate to each other

In John 17:20-23, what Jesus asked His Father to do for the people in His churches.

### 65. Cultivate Fellowship between Older and Newer Brothers

Find:

[Kids] In Matthew 20:1-16, the duty of older members of the church with newer ones.

### 66. Help Those with Very Difficult Problems

Find:

In Ephesians (review the entire book): What a person has and is in Christ, guidelines for getting along with each other and with family members, the duties of Christian husbands, wives, children and employees.

### 67. Evaluate, Reorganize and Extend Existing Ministries

In Eph. 4:11-16, guidelines for harmonizing different ministries for edification of the body.

### 68. Form Discipling Chains to Train Leaders over a Wide Area

Find:

[Kids] In 2 Chronicles 17:3-6 (compare 2 Tim. 2:2), an example of education by *extension*.

### 69. Strengthen Pastors and Elders of All the Churches

Find:

In 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus (review), guidelines for pastoral ministry (make a list).

### 70. Send Missionaries

Find:

In Psalm 67 (compare Matthew 28:18-20), the plan of God for the nations of the world.

[Kids] In Isaiah 6:1-8 (compare John 20:19-23 and 21:15-25), how the prophet responded to God's call.

In Acts chapters 13 through 28, *guidelines for mission*

---

[Kids] = recommended for discussion that includes children