



Exodus



Reading the Bible Together

June 2014

What is 'In Sync' Bible Reading?

'In Sync' encourages us to read the same Bible book through a month, and then reflect together on what we have read and learnt from God's Word. In June we are reading through the book of **Exodus**.

There are many advantages to reading together like this, including opportunities to:

- Develop the regular habit of Bible reading
- Become more familiar with the Bible
- Encourage one another by sharing the different things we have learnt through our Bible reading
- Read the Bible with family members and friends
- Handle a whole Bible book, when often we focus on much smaller sections of the Bible in our times of study together.

'I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word.' (Psalm 119:16)

Questions to consider

Reading the Bible does not have to be an intellectual study. Anyone can read the Bible and by God's grace understand it. The main thing is that we pray for God's help as we read. Here are some questions to help you think through what you are reading:

1. What have I learnt about God and about Jesus?
2. What does this teach me about humanity and myself?
3. What has most encouraged me from this book?

4. How does this teach me to love the Lord my God with all my heart, soul and mind? (Matt 22:37-40)
5. How does this teach me to love my neighbour as myself? (Matt 22:37-40)
6. Is there anything else I should learn here to be 'equipped for every good work' (2 Tim 3:17)

Exodus : What can we expect?

Exodus is the second book in the Bible. It continues where Genesis ends, with the Israelites in Egypt. However, the respect and appreciation of the Egyptians towards Joseph and his family has now turned to oppression and persecution of Joseph's descendants.

The overriding theme of the book of Exodus is deliverance. We read of the Israelites crying out to God in their distress and of God responding by raising up Moses as a leader for them. We read of God preparing Moses for leadership, and of God calling a reluctant Moses to confront Pharaoh.

God unleashes a series of 10 plagues upon the Egyptians, the last of which is the death of the firstborn. The Israelites are kept safe by sheltering behind the blood of a sacrificed lamb, in an event known as the Passover.

God leads the Israelites out of Egypt across the Red Sea, and into the wilderness. At Mount Sinai God enters into a covenant with Israel, giving them 10 Commandments, and many other instructions.

These instructions about the Passover, other sacrifices, the building of the tabernacle and the high priest all point forward to the Lord Jesus Christ and are foundational to our understanding of the redeeming work of Jesus.

In Exodus we also see the Israelites' propensity to idolatry and their doubting of God's love and God's power as they encounter difficulties. In 1 Corinthians 10:11 the apostle Paul, referring to the events described in the book of Exodus, says "These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us."

How to read?

With 40 chapters, you can read through Exodus by reading 10 chapters a week.

In-Sync Reading in July : 1 Samuel