



Psalms 101-150



Reading the Bible Together September 2016

What is 'In Sync' Bible Reading?

'In Sync' encourages us as a congregation to read the same Bible book through a month. As we do so, we can consider the main message and the key themes of a whole book of the Bible, and then share with others what we have learnt through our Bible reading.

'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)

Psalms 101-150 : What can we expect?

The book of Psalms is a collection of songs and poetic prayers from a number of different sources that cover a range of topics, including:

- Songs of praise to God
- Prayers for God's help
- Thanksgiving for answered prayer
- Laments
- Confession

The psalms are an expression of the *experience* of the life of faith. Many of them are personal, conveying the faith, joys, anguish and crises of the believers who wrote them. The psalms encourage us to face up to our sinfulness, to find forgiveness in God, to trust in God's promises, to remind ourselves of what God has done in the past, to commit ourselves to obey and serve God, to rage against injustice, to express our doubts, to rejoice in God's love and faithfulness, to persevere through spiritual barrenness, and to face death with hope.

Psalms 120-134 are classified as 'songs of ascent' and were probably used by people on festive pilgrimages to the temple in Jerusalem. Psalm 119 is a celebration of God's Word as the perfect guide for life, with each 8 verse stanza starting with a different letter in the Hebrew alphabet. Psalms 145-150 are all psalms of praise which bring the psalter to a close in a great doxology.

It is helpful when reading the psalms to consider them as prayers to Jesus or prayers of Jesus.

How to read?

Reading two psalms a day will enable you to read through Psalms 101-150 in a month.

In-Sync for October : Revelation