

E100

BIBLE READING CHALLENGE

Your journey through the Bible

'I've read bits of the Bible but I don't really know how they all fit together.'

'I've never read the Bible much but I'm interested in finding out more of what's in it.'

'I love the Bible. I'd like some help to understand it better and how it applies to my life today.'

Any of those quotes sound like you?
Then the E100 Bible Reading Challenge is for you!

The challenge is to read 100 carefully selected, essential, Bible passages – 50 from the Old Testament and 50 from the New Testament. The passages are usually one to two chapters in length and can easily be read in 10 minutes or less.

Are you up for the challenge?

 www.e100challenge.org.uk

biblefresh
It could change your world



In addition we have teamed up with CPO who are providing a wide range of supporting materials, many of which can be tailored to your requirements, to help churches promote and support the programme.



Scripture Union publishes *Essential 100*, by Whitney Kuniholm, which is an optional 160 page companion book, costing £6.99 (or £25 for a pack of 5). This includes a one page introduction to each set of five readings, notes on each of the selected readings to aid understanding and application prayer pointers for each reading.

We have made it as easy as possible for churches to participate so there is a wealth of resources available on the website:

www.e100challenge.org.uk

What resources are available?

Some churches use the small group material in their home groups or develop mid-week study groups to run in parallel with their regular home groups. Research shows that participants are much more likely to complete the challenge if they do so as part of a wider programme. But if that is not practical for your church you could simply encourage church members to take up the challenge during 2011, the Year of the Bible, as individuals or in groups.



One of the attractions of the programme is that it is very flexible. E100 is a personal challenge but to achieve maximum impact churches should integrate E100 into their whole teaching programme. The best approach is to set an agreed plan for the church. Most participants can complete five readings a week but it is a good idea to allow a 'blank week' every few weeks to give folk time to catch up if need be. Ideally at the start of each week of readings the sermon would provide an overview of the section that is coming up and maybe some reflections on the readings that have just been completed.

How does it work?

- More people become inspired to meet God every day through the Bible – not just for the period of the challenge but beyond
- Christians are encouraged to read parts of the Bible that are unfamiliar to them and so they become more confident in their understanding and knowledge of the Bible
- Churches discover the blessings of reading the Bible in community
- Participants gain a real insight in the overview of scripture and an overview of the whole Bible.

How can it help my church?

The E100 Bible Reading Challenge is based around 100 carefully selected Bible readings (50 from the Old Testament and 50 from the New Testament) designed to give participants a good understanding of the overall Bible story from Genesis to Revelation. The 'E' stands for Essential and each of the Essential 100 readings ranges from a few verses to a few chapters. The programme is very flexible and can be used by individuals but it is even more powerful when adapted to the context of the local church. Through completing the challenge, participants are encouraged to build a regular habit of spending time with God through Bible reading and prayer.

What is the E100 Bible Reading Challenge?

Who is behind the challenge?

The programme was pioneered by Scripture Union in the USA where it is now a joint project with American Bible Society. Australia, New Zealand, Germany and Argentina are implementing or planning nationwide E100 campaigns.

As part of the Biblefresh initiative, a consortium comprising the national Bible Societies and the Scripture Union movements of England and Wales, Ireland Northern Ireland and Scotland, along with Wycliffe Bible Translators has been formed to promote the programme throughout Britain and Ireland.

What do users think?

Feedback from users in churches that have run a pilot programme have been very positive. Here are some of their comments:

- a very useful exercise - especially for the Old Testament.
- It has given me a lot to think about and a lot to pray about.
- an excellent resource.
- I found it refreshing to follow this overview. It is a time commitment, but since I'm 'retired' (though busy) I should have the time!
- an excellent guide to the Bible.
- a fresh approach
- Very good indeed, when I have finished I'll probably start all over again.
- It reaches parts I've not touched before. The reflections are excellent.

How do I sign up?

There is much more detail available on the website with free downloadable resources to help you run the challenge, including sermon outlines, group discussion guides and sample programme outlines for 2011.

Visit the website now and use the inside of this leaflet as your first poster to get the programme going.

www.e100challenge.org.uk

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Inspire your church afresh with the Bible

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