

The Power of Four at PAVC

Lenten Practice of 4 Scripture Engagements Per Week

Online and App Resources for Engaging with Scripture

1. bibleinoneyear.org -- From Nicky & Pippa Gumbel and the Alpha course people. You can read or listen to the Bible with commentary.
2. BibleProject.com -- Helpful short videos which explain a lot about each book of the Bible. Sign up for reading plans with email reminders.
3. Audiobooks -- Audiobooks has some of the most popular and best Bible Apps for Android to listen to since it is read by a human voice.
4. YouVersion app -- 40 languages and hundreds of versions to choose from. Very customizable. Many thematic plans. You can do a reading or listening plan with friends. (Some of the youth in our church are doing that very thing!)
5. Bible.com/kids -- This app from YouVersion introduces the Bible to children in an engaging and entertaining format. Kids can play games, earn awards, and enjoy animated stories. For more information go to youversion.com/the-bible-app-for-kids
6. Readscripture.org -- Very well organized. Created by Francis Chan's group Crazy Love and partners with the Bible Project people so they have videos imbedded. Could be especially helpful for those who are new to the Bible and want to get a sense overall themes.
7. OneYearBibleOnline.com -- They serve up a 15 minute daily reading plan consisting of passages from the Old Testament, New Testament, Psalms, and Proverbs.

FAQs

1. What if I get stuck with a question or if I get confused?

We have recruited a panel of passionate Bible readers who have invested their lives to the pursuit of comprehending what the Bible says. Amanda & Ron Giles, Amy & Jeff Millenson, and Susan Van Riesen are available to dialogue with you. Please feel free to email your question to PowerOf4@pavineyard.org and one of them will get back to you.

2. Which version of the Bible should I read?

Here is a short article about why there are so many different versions.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/blog/2014/11/what-about-bible-translations/>

For the purpose of developing a practice of regular Bible engagement, we suggest that you begin with a translation which is somewhat in the middle regarding balancing “word for word” translation with “thought for thought”. We suggest NIV, NLT, NRSV or CEB. The Message or The Passion Translation versions are very understandable but not as close to the original text (which can be fine depending on what you are looking for).

3. What are some ways that I can stay motivated?

Here are some practical suggestions:

- Find a Bible engagement partner. Might there be someone in your small group or family or workplace who might be willing to do this with you using the same Bible plan? You could arrange to touch base once a week in person or by phone to ask each other what you are learning.
- Decide ahead of time when you are going to carve out time to do this. Put it in your calendar. Think of it as a commitment to spend quality time with Jesus.
- Remember that this is not an exercise to just do something but it's a way for God to reach you and pour into you. Slow down. Listen. Breathe. Chew. When you are at the end of your time, trust that God will do something with His words in your life. It's not all on you.

4. How do you know where to start?

Unless you have a particular theme or question that you want to begin with, it almost doesn't matter. Just start somewhere. If you are new to the Bible, why not start with Genesis or one of the biographies of Jesus (Matthew, Mark, Luke or John)? The Psalms are also a very helpful place to begin. Starting on March 8th, we will begin a new sermon series on the book of Ruth so that might be a good starting place as well.