

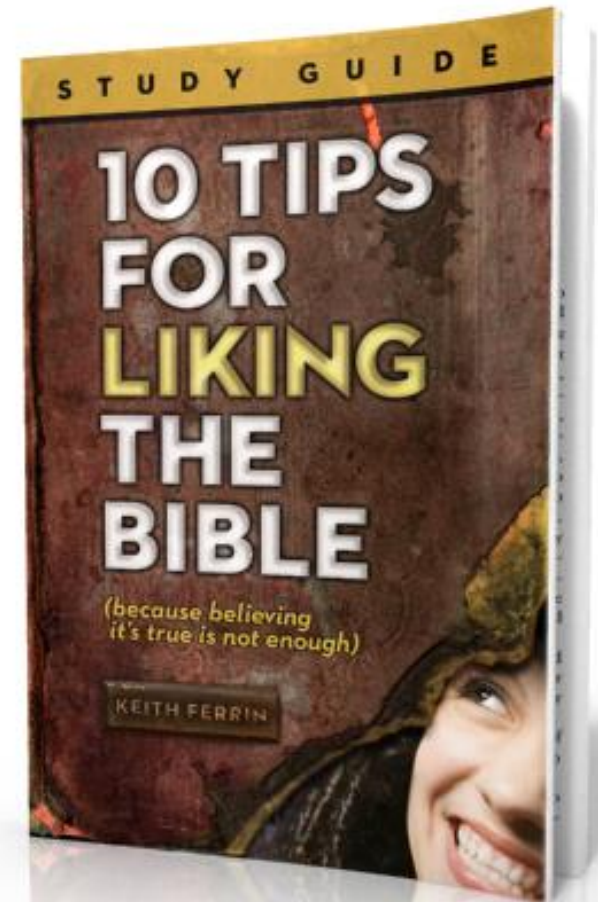
Chronological Reading Plan

Adapted from the Study Guide for

10 Tips for *Liking* the Bible

(Because Believing It's True Is Not Enough)

By Keith Ferrin



A Little About This Chronological Reading Plan

You may or may not know this, but the stories in the Bible aren't written in perfect chronological order. The primary reason is that many of the books overlap in the time periods they cover. Other books, like Psalms and Proverbs are collections of songs, poems, and wise sayings that were written by various people who lived in different generations. Still other books, notably the writings of the prophets (Isaiah, Hosea, Jeremiah and Ezekiel to name a few) were written during a very specific time period that is covered by as little as a chapters of one of the longer, historical books, like the books of Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles.

It is very helpful – and enjoyable – to read the psalms, proverbs, and prophecies alongside the historical narrative that coincides with when they are written. There is no way to know the exact date when everything happened and was recorded, so different chronological Bibles will have minor variances between them.

Below is a commonly used chronological reading plan, based on recent historical research. It is provided by the Blue Letter Bible (www.blueletterbible.org) a terrific online study resource.

I purposefully *don't* break this plan into “days” – or any specific timeframe for that matter. In my book **10 Tips for Liking the Bible (Because Believing It's True Is Not Enough)**, I cover my reason for this extensively in *Tip 4: Watch the Whole Movie*. Bottom Line: When you break the Bible into specific pieces for each day, you might know what you need to do, but you won't *enjoy* it as much. Your mindset will be what you have to “get through” for the day, as opposed to “I'm going to hang out in the Word for 20 minutes.” (Or 30, or 60, etc.)

That said, in the Study Guide for **10 Tips**, I challenge readers to do a *4-Month Bible Read Thru*. For those of you who are using this chronological reading plan as part of a *4-Month Bible Read Thru*, I have inserted breaks as “check points” for the end of each month so you can make sure you are not too far behind or ahead of the rest of your group.

Another chronological reading plan one I have used is provided by ESV.org (English Standard Version of the Bible) and can be found at www.esv.org/assets/pdfs/rp.chronological.pdf. If you are reading on your phone or tablet, download the YouVersion app (free and available on every phone, tablet, and computer platform) and there is a chronological reading plan built in.

I have said many times that this is my favorite way to read the Bible. I pray this plan will be a practical, helpful tool for you as you immerse yourself in God's beautiful, mysterious, wonderful, living Word.

Alongside,

Keith

The Chronological Reading Plan

- Genesis 1-11
- Job 1-42
- Genesis 12-50
- Exodus 1-40
- Leviticus 1-27
- Numbers 1-15; Psalm 90
- Numbers 16-36
- Deuteronomy 1-34; Psalm 91
- Joshua 1-24
- Judges 1-21

End of Month One

- Ruth 1-4
- 1 Samuel 1-20; Psalms 11, 59
- 1 Samuel 21-24
- Psalms 7, 27, 31, 34, 52, 56, 120, 140-142
- 1 Samuel 25-27
- Psalms 17, 35, 54, 63
- 1 Samuel 28-31; Psalms 18
- Psalms 121, 123-125, 128-130
- 2 Samuel 1-4
- Psalms 6, 8-10, 14, 16, 19, 21
- 1 Chronicles 1-2
- Psalms 43-45, 49, 84-85, 87
- 1 Chronicles 3-5
- Psalms 73, 77-78
- 1 Chronicles 6
- Psalms 81, 88, 92-93
- 1 Chronicles 7-10
- Psalms 102-104
- 2 Samuel 5; 1 Chronicles 11-12
- Psalms 133, 106-107

- 1 Chronicles 13-16
- Psalms 1-2, 15, 22-24, 47, 68
- Psalms 89, 96, 100-101, 105, 132
- 2 Samuel 6-7; 1 Chronicles 17
- Psalms 25, 29, 33, 36, 39
- 2 Samuel 8-9; 1 Chronicles 18
- Psalms 50, 53, 60, 75
- 2 Samuel 10; 1 Chronicles 19; Psalms 20
- Psalms 65-67, 69-70
- 2 Samuel 11-12; 1 Chronicles 20
- Psalms 32, 51, 86, 122
- 2 Samuel 13-15
- Psalms 3-4, 12-13, 28, 55
- 2 Samuel 16-18
- Psalms 26, 40, 58, 61-62, 64
- 2 Samuel 19-21
- Psalms 5, 38, 41-42
- 2 Samuel 22-23; Psalms 57, 95, 97-99
- 2 Samuel 24; 1 Chronicles 21-22; Psalms 30, 108-110
- 1 Chronicles 23-25
- Psalms 131, 138-139, 143-145
- 1 Chronicles 26-29; Psalms 127, 111-118
- 1 Kings 1-2; Psalms 37, 71, 94, 119
- 1 Kings 3-4
- 2 Chronicles 1; Psalms 72
- Song of Solomon 1-8
- Proverbs 1-24
- 1 Kings 5-6; 2 Chronicles 2-3

- 1 Kings 7; 2 Chronicles 4
- 1 Kings 8; 2 Chronicles 5
- 2 Chronicles 6-7; Psalms 136
- Psalms 134, 146-150
- 1 Kings 9; 2 Chronicles 8
- Proverbs 25-29
- Ecclesiastes 1-12
- 1 Kings 10-11; 2 Chronicles 9
- Proverbs 30-31
- 1 Kings 12-14
- 2 Chronicles 10-12
- 1 Kings 15; 2 Chronicles 13-16
- 1 Kings 16; 2 Chronicles 17
- 1 Kings 17-22; 2 Chronicles 18
- 2 Chronicles 19-23
- Obadiah; Psalms 82-83

End of Month Two

- 2 Kings 1-4
- 2 Kings 5-13; 2 Chronicles 24
- 2 Kings 14; 2 Chronicles 25
- Jonah 1-4
- 2 Kings 15; 2 Chronicles 26
- Isaiah 1-8
- Amos 1-9
- 2 Chronicles 27; Isaiah 9-12
- Micah 1-7
- 2 Kings 16-17; 2 Chronicles 28
- Isaiah 13-27
- 2 Kings 18; 2 Chronicles 29-31; Psalms 48
- Hosea 1-14
- Isaiah 28-39; Psalms 76

- Isaiah 40-48
- 2 Kings 19; Psalms 46, 80, 135
- Isaiah 49-66
- 2 Kings 20-21
- 2 Chronicles 32-33
- Nahum 1-3
- 2 Kings 22-23; 2 Chronicles 34-35
- Zephaniah 1-3
- Jeremiah 1-40
- Psalms 74, 79
- 2 Kings 24-25; 2 Chronicles 36
- Habakkuk 1-3
- Jeremiah 41-52
- Lamentations 1-5
- Ezekiel 1-48
- Joel 1-3
- Daniel 1-12
- Ezra 1-6; Psalms 137
- Haggai 1-2
- Zechariah 1-14
- Esther 1-10
- Ezra 6-10
- Nehemiah 1-13; Psalms 126
- Malachi 1-4

End of Month Three

- Luke 1; John 1
- Matthew 1; Luke 2
- Matthew 2-3; Mark 1; Luke 3
- Matthew 4; Luke 4-5
- John 2-4
- Matthew 8; Mark 2

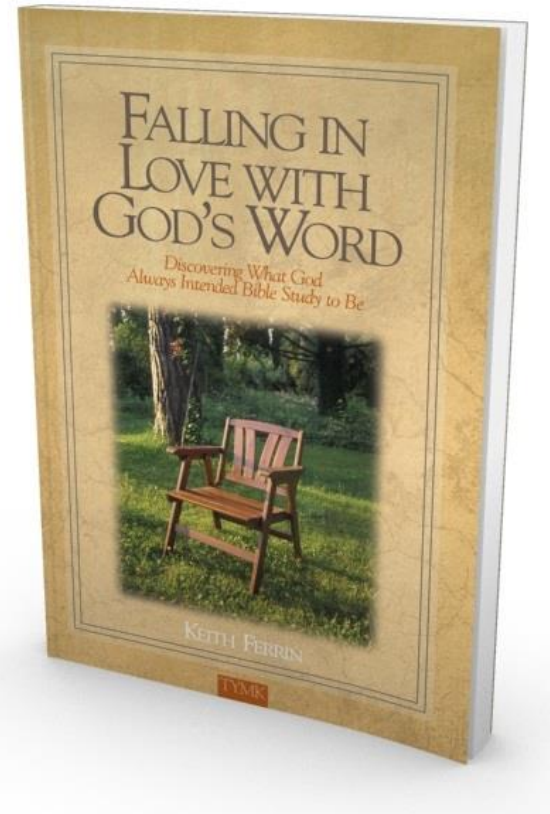
- John 5
- Matthew 12; Mark 3; Luke 6
- Matthew 5-7
- Matthew 9; Luke 7
- Matthew 11
- Luke 11
- Matthew 13; Luke 8
- Mark 4-5
- Matthew 10
- Matthew 14; Mark 6; Luke 9
- John 6
- Matthew 15; Mark 7
- Matthew 16; Mark 8
- Matthew 17; Mark 9
- Matthew 18
- John 7-10
- Luke 10-17
- John 11
- Luke 18
- Matthew 19; Mark 10
- Matthew 20-21
- Luke 19
- Mark 11; John 12
- Matthew 22; Mark 12
- Matthew 23; Luke 20-21
- Mark 13
- Matthew 24-26; Mark 14
- Luke 22; John 13
- John 14-17
- Matthew 27; Mark 15
- Luke 23; John 18-19

- Matthew 28; Mark 16
- Luke 24; John 20-21
- Acts 1-14
- James
- Acts 15-16
- Galatians
- Acts 17
- 1 & 2 Thessalonians
- Acts 18-19
- 1 & 2 Corinthians
- Romans
- Acts 20-28
- Colossians
- Philemon
- Ephesians
- Philippians
- 1 Timothy
- Titus
- 1 Peter
- Hebrews
- 2 Timothy
- 2 Peter
- Jude
- 1, 2, & 3 John
- Revelation 1-22

Falling in Love with God's Word

Discovering What God Always Intended Bible Study to Be

- Unpacks every aspect of Foundation, Framing, and Finish Work.
- Go in depth on everything from Foundational Reading, to discovering a book's theme and purpose, to diving into detailed word studies.



“Falling in Love with God’s Word made the Bible come alive. His insight into the studying of Scripture shows not only the importance of knowing God’s Word, but also gives all who use his material a deeper love for Jesus.”

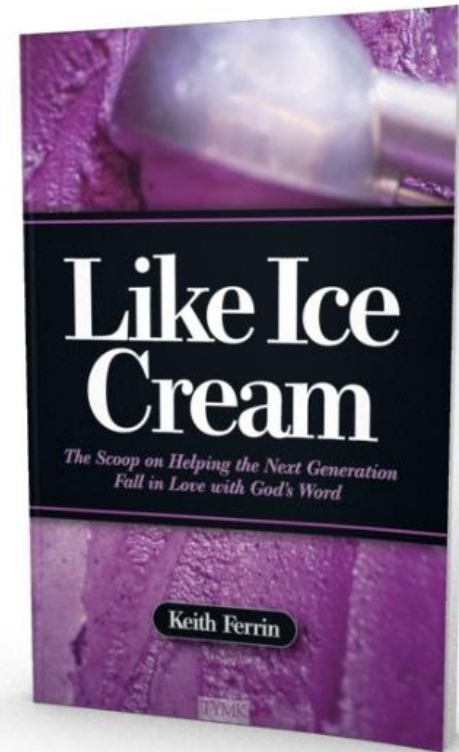
Twiggs Reed
National Director for Young Life (Singapore)

Like Ice Cream

The Scoop on Helping the Next Generation Fall in Love with God's Word

*Are you a parent, youth pastor, or children's pastor?
If so...this is for you!*

I am a parent of three young children. I was a youth pastor for six years. I have an M.Ed. in Guidance and Counseling and spent a couple years as an elementary school counselor. (Oh, and my wife has taught elementary school for seventeen years.) **We love the next generation.** And we want our kids – and yours – to grow up loving the Bible, not just believing it's true.



“Like Ice Cream is a marvelous book. If we can pass on a love for God's Word to our children, we are giving them a gift that will last a lifetime. Keith offers the most practical, effective approach I have ever seen to accomplish just that.”

Gary Thomas
Writer in Residence, 2nd Baptist Church, Houston, TX
Author of *Sacred Marriage* and *Sacred Parenting*

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There are lots of ways we can connect. Here are a few:

- Email: keith@keithferrin.com
- Blog: www.keithferrin.com
- [Twitter](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
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And if I can ever serve you, please don't hesitate to shoot me a note. I'd love to help. Truly.

Alongside,
Keith