

Bible Quest Begins

From Melissa Watson, chair of BCC worship committee & Bethcom member

Have you ever wanted to read through the entire Bible but never got past Exodus? Do you sometimes feel lost or overwhelmed trying to understand what you just read? Do you struggle to work reading the Bible into your busy schedule? I mean after all, with work, family, exercise, meals, chores, and the occasional dinner out, it is difficult to schedule time for anything. If you are this person, Bethany has a plan that will guide you through the process and provide support when you need it, Bible Quest.

The easiest way to think of Bible Quest is as a year-long Bible study (though it is that and more) beginning in Genesis and continuing through Revelations. Bible Quest can sound complicated and confusing when you first learn about it, but truthfully, it is simple. At its core, it is simply reading the Bible from page one to the end. We give support by providing materials that give you both structure and information, and we provide these for you in two formats: in-person or on-line. It is also possible for you to blend these two formats and develop a reading plan/bible study that is uniquely suited to you. The choice is yours and is available to make things easier, not to complicate them.

Let me explain how Bible Quest works. To participate in-person only, come to worship at Bethany Christian Church on September 5 or 12 to join and receive the printed year long schedule of daily bible readings. We are using a schedule that was developed by [Learn the Bible for Free Online | BibleProject™](#)). Look that over and begin reading your own Bible that day, and follow the plan given to you. Then next Sunday, join us again for Sunday School, and Rev. Roger Bennett's class will discuss the week's reading and have time for questions. It is that simple.

Let's look at Bible Quest from the perspective of someone who wishes to participate 100% on-line only. Begin by calling the church office (252-249-0266) and telling me that you wish to participate. I will sign you up to receive the reading plan weekly in your email account. That would go straight to you. You then follow the schedule emailed to you. Rev. Torrie Osgood will be posting an overview of the upcoming reading, and Rev. Roger Bennett will also be offering a video summary of the weekly reading that will be posted to YouTube, the church's website/blog <https://bethanyarapahoe.org/>, and our Facebook page. You can stop there, or you can go to <https://bibleproject.com/> and access the recommended videos created by the BibleProject people included on the reading schedule.

Here are some hints that will help you get the most out of your efforts. First, make sure that you have a translation of the Bible that you enjoy reading. This translation can be the New King James, New Revised Standard Version, the English Standard Version, whatever translation you like; however, it does need to be ordered by chapter and verse so that you can follow the reading plan. Second, have a set time to do your reading. Prioritize your time in The Word as you would any important event. Third, make sure you have a comfortable and inviting space to read. Some people enjoy different locations; I find it simpler to use my same comfy chair by the window every day. You will probably also want a notebook and pencil to jot down questions and things you want to remember.

Reading God's word for ourselves empowers us with His strength and speaks to us personally. We grow more like Jesus as we spend time in prayer, and in His Word. Now is the perfect time to begin. Call Melissa at 252-249-0266 to sign-up. You can also email me at bethanysecretaryarapahoe@gmail.com