

A Chronological Bible Reading Schedule

Week 1 - September 4-10

As we read the four accounts of the “Life of Lives”—the Life of Christ—we will follow the order given in *The Fourfold Gospel*, by J. W. McGarvey and Philip Y. Pendleton. The purposes for this are: 1) this book is excellent and it will be far easier to study it (if the reader owns it) by retaining their order, 2) the exact chronology of His life is not always easy to determine, for the writers were not necessarily writing in exact chronological order at all times, 3) this is a good arrangement, and 4) the parallel records of the same events are grouped together.

09/04	Luke 1:1-4 John 1:1-18 Matthew 1:1-17 Luke 3:23-38 Luke 1:5-80	Luke's preface states the need for a record that is based on “having had perfect understanding,” which is what we have in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Note that he writes to a man named Theophilus, which means “lover of God.” The “prologue” to John teaches that the Word: has the nature of Deity because He is Deity (1:1-5), became flesh (1:6-14), brought final and full revelation of God to the earth (1:15-18). This is the genealogy of Jesus through Joseph, the royal line. This is the genealogy of Jesus through Mary, the fleshly line. This relates to the conception and birth of John and the conception of Jesus in the womb of a virgin named Mary.	John 4:5-42	On the way north to Galilee, Jesus went through Samaria and taught the woman at the well. This passage affirms one of the “I AM's” of Jesus: I am the Messiah. Jesus arrives in Galilee.	
09/05	Matthew 1:18-25 Luke 2:1-39 Matthew 2:1-2 Luke 2:40-52	The only two accounts of the birth and early childhood of Jesus. Note His enemies and the friendly witnesses to His birth.	09/08	Luke 4:14 John 4:43-45 Matthew 4:17 Mark 1:14,15 Luke 4:15 John 4:46-54 Matthew 4:13-16 Matthew 4:18-22 Mark 1:16-20 Luke 5:1-11 Mark 1:21-28 Luke 4:31-37 Matthew 8:14-17 Mark 1:29-34 Luke 4:38-41 Matthew 4:23-25 Mark 1:35-39 Luke 4:42-44	A summary of His teaching. Jesus heals the nobleman's son from a distance. He stops at Capernaum and fulfills prophecy. Four fishermen follow Jesus. He casts a demon out of a man in a synagogue. He heals the mother-in-law of Peter. Jesus preaches in Galilee.
09/06	Matthew 3:1-12; Mark 1:1-8 Luke 3:1-18 Matthew 3:13-17 Mark 1:9-11 Luke 3:21-23 Matthew 4:1-11 Mark 1:12,13 Luke 4:1-13 John 1:19-34	Parallel recounting of the preaching of John and its results. The record of the Lord's immersion in obedience to the command of the Father. Christ confronts and defeats Satan by using scripture to escape temptation (see I Corinthians 10:13; I John 2:15-17).	09/09	Matthew 8:2-4 Mark 1:40-45 Luke 5:12-16 Matthew 9:2-8 Mark 2:1-12 Luke 5:17-26 Matthew 9:9 Mark 2:13,14 Luke 5:27,28 John 5:1-47 Matthew 12:1-8 Mark 2:23-28 Luke 6:1-5 Matthew 12:9-14 Mark 3:1-6 Luke 6:6-11 Matthew 12:15-21 Mark 3:7-12 Matthew 10:2-4 Mark 3:13-19 Luke 6:12-16	Jesus heals a leper. Jesus heals a paralyzed man. Matthew (Levi) follows Jesus. Jesus heals a man at the pool of Bethesda; Controversy follows. His disciples pick grain on the Sabbath and Jesus defends them. A man with a withered hand is healed. Multitudes are healed by the Sea of Galilee. Jesus prays all night and selects twelve apostles.
09/07	John 1:35-51 John 2:1-25 John 3:1-36 Matthew 4:12 Mark 1:14 Luke 3:19,20 John 4:1-4	John gives further testimony about the “Lamb of God.” in transition from his ministry to that of Jesus. Jesus begins to gather His disciples. Two illustrations about the Lord. 1 - His power over time and nature in making the wine. 2 - His hatred of sin in the first cleansing of the temple. Discussion with Nicodemus about the new birth, wherein Jesus clearly taught “there is water in the plan” ... a person must be born of water before entering the kingdom (church; Matthew 16:18,19); perhaps the most famous verse in the Bible (John 3:16); and the Lord's lesson about light and darkness. Reasons for His journey to Galilee.			

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Week 2 - September 11-17

- 09/11** Matthew 5:1-7:29 Full account of "The Sermon on the Mount."
Luke 6:17-49 Shorter version, possibly presented multiple times.
- 09/12** Matthew 8:1,5-13 Christ heals a centurion's servant.
Luke 7:1-10
Luke 7:11-17 A widow's son at Nain raised from the dead.
Matthew 11:2-30 Jesus answers questions from John the Baptist as a lesson.
Luke 7:18-35
- 09/13** Luke 7:36-50 A woman anoints the feet of Jesus.
Luke 8:1-3 He travels and preaches in Galilee.
Matthew 12:22-37 Some make blasphemous accusations against Him.
Mark 3:20-30
Luke 11:14-23
Matthew 12:38-45 A sinful generation asks for a sign.
Luke 11:24-36
Matthew 12:46-50 A lesson about His mother and brothers.
Mark 3:31-35
Luke 8:19-21
- 09/14** Luke 11:37-54 At dinner with a Pharisee, He denounces them.
Luke 12:1-59 A long lesson of warnings.
Luke 13:1-9 A lesson about repentance and fruits.
- 09/15** Matthew 13:1-53 Seven parables, beginning with the parable of the sower.
Mark 4:1-34
Luke 8:4-18
Matthew 8:18-27 On the same day, Jesus demands commitment and stills the storm of Galilee.
Mark 4:35-41
Luke 8:22-25
- 09/16** Matthew 8:28-34 Jesus casts out "Legion" and about 2000 hogs rush into the sea.
Matthew 9:1
Mark 5:1-21
Luke 8:26-40
Matthew 9:10-17 He attends a feast at Matthew's house.
Mark 2:15-22
Luke 5:29-39
Matthew 9:18-26 On the way to raise the daughter of Jairus, a woman is healed.
Mark 5:22-43
Luke 8:41-56
- 09/17** Matthew 9:27-34 Two blind men and a demon-possessed mute are healed.
Matthew 13:54-58 The Lord is rejected at Nazareth.
Mark 6:1-6
Luke 4:16-31
Matthew 9:35-38 He travels in Galilee and then sends out the twelve.
Matthew 10:1,5-42
Matthew 11:1
Mark 6:7-13
Luke 9:1-6

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Week 3 - September 18-24

- 09/18** Matthew 14:1-12 Another of the wicked Herods hears of the work of Jesus and supposes that it is John risen from the dead!
Mark 6:14-29
Luke 9:7-9
Matthew 14:13 The twelve return from their mission and go to a deserted place.
Mark 6:30-32
Luke 9:10
John 6:1
Matthew 14:14-21 One of the few events in all 4 gospels, the feeding of the 5000.
Mark 6:33-44
Luke 9:11-17
John 6:2-14
Matthew 14:22-36 The place where we learn about the Lord's walking on the water.
Mark 6:45-56
- 09/19** John 6:22-71 On the next day, Jesus claims, "I am the bread of life."
Matthew 15:1-20 One of Christ's strongest lessons against the teachings of the Jewish "clergy."
Mark 7:1-23
John 7:1
Matthew 15:21-28 He heals the daughter of the Canaanite woman.
Mark 7:24-30
- 09/20** Matthew 15:29-38 He heals a deaf man with a speech impediment and feeds 4000.
Mark 7:31-8:9
Matthew 15:39 He teaches again about the leaven (influence) of the Pharisees and Sadducees and heals a blind man.
Matthew 16:12
Mark 8:10-26
Matthew 16:13-20 He promises to establish His church/kingdom (also called "body," "temple," "household," "army," vineyard," etc.) after the famous confession by Peter.
Mark 8:27-30
Luke 9:18-21
Matthew 16:21-28 Immediately, Jesus begins to make predictions—with details—of His coming passion.
Mark 8:31-9:1
Luke 9:22-27
- 09/21** Matthew 17:1-13 This has to be one of the most memorable events of all time: the transfiguration of our Lord. Peter speaks of it again as his life drew to its end (II Peter 1:16-18).
Mark 9:2-13
Luke 9:28-36
Matthew 17:14-21 Jesus casts a demon out of a boy.
Mark 9:14-29
Luke 9:37-43
Matthew 17:22,23 Christ predicts His passion again.
- Mark 9:30-32
Luke 9:43-45
Matthew 17:24-27 The Lord teaches a lesson by paying taxes.
Matthew 18:1-14 Christ teaches the innocence (*not* the inherited depravity!) of children and commands that we be like they are.
Mark 9:33-50
Luke 9:46-50
- 09/22** Matthew 18:15-35 Here is a lengthy lesson about forgiveness.
John 7:2-9 Jesus is advised by His brothers, who did not yet believe in Him. He makes a private journey to Jerusalem.
Luke 9:51-56
John 7:10
Luke 9:57-62
John 7:11-52
Jesus speaks to three—one by one—about following Him. At the temple, the Messiah teaches about the source of His doctrine, leading to divisions in the multitude.
- 09/23** John 7:53-8:11 This is the passage about the woman caught in adultery.
John 8:12-59 The I AM makes still another claim, "I am the Light of the world." Note verse 58 particularly.
John 9:1-41 Immediately, "the Light of the world" gives sight to a man blind from birth (he was older than Jesus!). The man proceeds to demonstrate great spiritual strength.
- John 10:1-21 Now the I AM claims to be "the Door" and "the Good Shepherd."
- 09/24** Luke 10:1-24 The sending out of the 70 (two by two) and His speech about their work.
Luke 10:25-37 A discussion with a lawyer leads to the giving of the parable of the good Samaritan.
Luke 10:38-42 Jesus visits Martha and Mary.
Luke 11:1-13 He teaches the disciples to pray.
Luke 13:10-21 Jesus heals a woman in a synagogue on the Sabbath and then puts His adversaries to shame.
John 10:22-42 An audience correctly understands His claim when He says, "I and the Father are one." But they reject the evidence He offers.
Luke 13:22-35 Jesus answers a question about how many are going to be saved, and then receives a warning about Herod.

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Week 4 - September 25 through October 01

09/25	<p>Luke 14:1-24</p> <p>Luke 14:25-35</p> <p>Luke 15:1-32</p> <p>Luke 16:1-18</p> <p>Luke 16:19-31</p>	<p>Jesus healed a man at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees on the Sabbath and used the opportunity to teach several lessons. The Lord's great lesson on "counting the cost."</p> <p>Chapter is devoted to teaching about repentance by the use of three parables: the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the lost son. Parable of the unjust steward.</p> <p>Chapter closes with the story of Lazarus and the rich man. Note that Luke does not call this a parable.</p>		
09/26	<p>Luke 17:1-10</p> <p>John 11:1-46</p> <p>John 11:47-54</p> <p>Luke 17:11-37</p>	<p>Several brief lessons are in these verses, addressed to His disciples rather than the Pharisees and other enemies.</p> <p>The I AM is the "I am the Resurrection and the Life" as he raises Lazarus, the brother of Martha and Mary, from the dead. A council convened by His enemies, and Jesus' decision to go to the wilderness for a time.</p> <p>As Jesus and the disciples travel to Jerusalem, He heals ten lepers and teaches more lessons.</p>	09/30	<p>Mt 21:18,19,12,13 The barren fig tree is cursed, and the temple is cleansed (for the second time).</p> <p>Mark 11:12-18</p> <p>Luke 19:45-48</p> <p>Matthew 21:20-22 The fig tree is already withered, and He uses it as an object lesson.</p> <p>Mark 11:19-26</p> <p>Luke 21:37,38</p> <p>Matthew 21:23-27 Jesus teaches about His authority.</p> <p>Mark 11:27-33</p> <p>Luke 20:1-8</p> <p>Matthew 21:28-32 Parable of the two sons is His next lesson. Then He delivers the parable of the wicked husbandman.</p> <p>Matthew 21:33-46</p> <p>Mark 12:1-12</p> <p>Luke 20:9-19</p>
09/27	<p>Luke 18:1-8</p> <p>Luke 18:9-14</p> <p>Matthew 19:1-12</p> <p>Mark 10:1-12</p> <p>Matthew 19:13-15</p> <p>Mark 10:13-16</p> <p>Luke 18:15-17</p> <p>Mt 19:16-20:16</p>	<p>Parable of the persistent widow.</p> <p>Parable of the Pharisee and the publican with timeless lessons on pride, prayer, and humility.</p> <p>Jesus gives His will on marriage, divorce, and remarriage. Another lesson about children.</p> <p>He is now approached by the "rich young ruler," and proceeds to teach about commandment keeping, riches, and sacrifice, followed by the parable of the laborers in the vineyard.</p>	10/01	<p>Matthew 22:1-14 Parable of the wedding of the king's son.</p> <p>Matthew 22:15-22 His enemies now attempt to ensnare Jesus by asking a "hard" question about paying tribute (taxes).</p> <p>Mark 12:13-17</p> <p>Luke 20:20-26</p> <p>Matthew 22:23-33 A question about the resurrection asked by the Sadducees.</p> <p>Mark 12:18-27</p> <p>Luke 20:27-39</p> <p>Matthew 22:34-40 The question and answer about "the great commandment."</p> <p>Mark 12:28-34</p> <p>Luke 20:40</p> <p>Matthew 22:41-46 Now it is the Lord's turn to ask a question!</p> <p>Mark 12:35-37</p> <p>Luke 20:41-44</p> <p>Matthew 23:1-39 At this time, Jesus presents His strong "negative" sermon against the scribes and Pharisees: <i>Hypocrites</i>.</p> <p>Mark 12:38-40</p> <p>Luke 20:45-47</p> <p>Mark 12:41-44 Jesus observes the widow who offers everything: two mites.</p> <p>Luke 21:1-4</p>
09/28	<p>Mark 10:17-31</p> <p>Luke 18:18-30</p> <p>Matthew 20:17-28</p> <p>Mark 10:32-45</p> <p>Luke 18:31-34</p> <p>Matthew 20:29-34</p> <p>Mark 10:46-52</p> <p>Luke 18:35-43</p> <p>Luke 19:1-28</p>	<p>Jesus predicts His coming suffering in detail, but they still do not understand.</p> <p>Two blind men, one named Bartimaeus, receive their sight.</p> <p>As He continues toward Jerusalem, Jesus meets Zacchaeus and teaches the parable of the pounds.</p> <p>Introduction to the final week of His life before the crucifixion.</p>		
09/29	<p>John 11:55-12:11</p> <p>Matthew 26:6-13</p> <p>Mark 14:3-9</p> <p>Matthew 21:1-11</p> <p>Matthew 14-17</p> <p>Mark 11:1-11</p> <p>Luke 19:29-44</p> <p>John 12:12-19</p>	<p>Four inspired records of the "triumphal entry" into Jerusalem.</p>		