

**Wesley Church**

**September 17-December 17, 2017**

**27/90**

**BOOKS**

**DAYS**

**NEW**

**TESTAMENT**

**What does God really say?**

**27 books in 90 days**

## **Reading through the New Testament 27/90 workbook**

Thank you for deciding to take this journey together. The world is filled with people shouting they know the truth and often we have difficulty sorting through it all. The purpose of our reading is to begin our quest for truth with God's word at our center and to search as a united group of people. Adults, youth and children from Wesley and the community are all participating. By reading through His word, we will be seeking His Spirit to lead us to truth. Jesus himself proclaims He is the truth and so it would benefit us to begin looking for truth with His words and actions. The New Testament gives us the primary source for eternal truths. Our discipline is simply to read a little each day and take a few notes. All who are able are encouraged to be in one of the small groups forming around this study.

Our key verse for the study is Hebrews 4:12 "The word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." We should all try to memorize this verse. To help you and your family, we have created memory tools with the verse on it. You can get them at the welcome table in church.

In the workbook you will find daily reading assignments, the Sunday morning message date, title, and three key points along with space to take notes. If you miss a Sunday, you can listen to the message on line: [www.wesleymemorial.net](http://www.wesleymemorial.net). We will have the sermons available by Tuesday evening in preparation for Wednesdays. There is a prayer for the week we should all pray for ourselves and for one another each day of the week. At the end of each week, there are questions for us to consider or discuss in our small groups, "table time," or around the table at home. You will also find a space where you can write out a key verse for the week. The weekly challenge is intended to put our faith into action.

There will be a midweek study, "Going Deeper" on Monday mornings and Wednesday evenings to go deeper into the truths that transform us. The table talk is designed for our table times at those gatherings and for you to consider at home. Monday mornings we will meet in the overflow at 11 am. Dinner on Wednesdays is at 5:30 in the FLC, a home cooked meal, and study will be in the fellowship hall after dinner, at 6:30. There is both a children and youth ministry for your family on Wednesdays.



3. The surprising Spirit. What is the role of the Holy Spirit in the revelation of truth?

**Prayer:** Lord, as I read thru Your Word, help me to find what You intend me to see and not be blinded by what I expect. May Your Spirit be my teacher as I seek to discover the truth of Your word for my soul. So Lord, speak to me, walk with me, empower me to cast off images of You that have held me back from having a deeper walk with You.

In our daily reading, we should take notes each day. What is God saying about me, about culture, about God, about our relationships with God and each other?

Day 2            Read Matthew 4-6    Temptation of Jesus, Sermon on the Mount

Day 3            Read Matthew 7-9    Miracles, The cost of following Jesus

Day 4            Read Matthew 10-12 Commissioning the 12, John the Baptist

**Going Deeper**

What is the difference between abolishing and fulfilling the law?

Why does Jesus set the standard so high?

Day 5            Read Matthew 13-15 Parables, Feeding the 4,000

Day 6            Read Matthew 16-18 Pharisees, The Transfiguration

Day 7

Read Matthew 19-21 Kingdom behavior

**Table time:**

1. Does our expectation for Jesus meet our reality? Do we expect things He is not delivering?
2. How does a humble King meet our needs?
3. What learning this week has surprised you about Jesus or about yourself?

4. Make a list of ten of the “truths” you believe Jesus presented to us as Godly expectations for human behavior.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

Each week select one key verse that surprises you or confirms a deep seeded belief.

**Key verse for the week**

**Weekly challenge:**

What did Jesus say or do in our reading this week that affirms our understanding of truth?

Did anything challenge something you thought was true?



3. Confront the bear. What (or who) is the greatest challenge to your spiritual journey? How does Jesus' actions and teaching impact what you are doing?

**Prayer:** Lord we all have those forces in our lives that distract us from our purpose to love you and be a part of your family. Send your spirit to give us strength, help us to be resolute in our decision to follow You. Confront us when we are in the wrong, strengthen us when we are weak, confirm us when we are walking a straight path, challenge us when we are complacent. Allow us to love those you love.

In our daily reading, we should take notes each day. What is God saying about me, about culture, about God, about our relationships with God and each other?

Day 9            Read Matthew 25-27 Salvation stories, the Crucifixion

Day 10           Read Matthew 28 The Resurrection, Great Commission

Day 11      Read Mark 1-3      Prepare the way, Baptism

**Going deeper**

Why is the cross the most significant event in history?

Why do we baptize?

How is the Holy Spirit connected to the truth?

Day 12      Read Mark 4-6      Parables and miracles

Day 13      Read Mark 7-9      Siding with the Kingdom

Day 14      Read Mark 10-12 Divorce, The request of James and John

**Table time:**

1. What does it mean to you when asked, “Have you made a decision about Jesus?”
2. How do you plan to stay on track with a decision to follow Jesus?
3. Is there a big bear in your life?

Each week select one key verse that surprises you or confirms a deep seeded belief.

**Key verse for the week:**

**Weekly challenge:**

As we consider the events and people who are in the way of our spiritual growth, Jesus challenges us to focus on making a difference with those who will listen. Is there anyone in your life ready to listen? Go share the gospel.

**Week three**

**Day 15** Read Mark 13-15

Sunday October 1

The King's Feast

Humility and the blood of the new covenant

Message notes:

1. Contrasting feasts: Passover and Communion. Why do we take communion together as a church?

2. What is so new about communion and why blood?

3. Does anything really happen at communion?

**Prayer:** Lord as we gather for Your feast, empower us to be mindful that You died to establish a new path for us to have a relationship with You. May Your Spirit that lives within us help us to remember the things You teach us so that we can better serve You and help others come into Your kingdom. May we always be prepared to set another place at Your table for the faithful who come to You.

In our daily reading, we should take notes each day. What is God saying about me, about culture, about God, about our relationships with God and each other?

Day 16          Read Mark 16          Resurrection

Day 17          Read Luke 1-3          Prophecy and birth

Day 18          Read Luke 4-6          Temptation, Calling the disciples

**Going Deeper:**

What differences do you see between Luke and Matthew as they recount the temptation?

Why are there three temptations? What might they represent to us?

Day 19      Read Luke 7-9 Faith and healing, Resolutely going to Jerusalem

Day 20      Read Luke 10-12    The good Samaritan, The rich fool

Day 21      Read Luke 13-15    The narrow door, The lost son

**Table time:**

1. How is Luke's gospel different from Matthew?
2. What is the significance of Luke 9:51?
3. What do lost things in Luke 15 represent? How does the church respond to lost things?

Each week select one key verse that surprises you or confirms a deep seeded belief.

**Key verse for the week:**

**Weekly challenge:**

Which of the parables in Luke most resonates with you? Why do you think so? Which parable makes you think of someone else? Perhaps you should tell them so...

**Week four**  
**Day 22**

Read Luke 16-18

Sunday October 8

The King's Citizens  
Wisdom, gratitude, faith

Message notes:

1. Wisdom

2. Gratitude

3. Faith

**Prayer:** Lord help us to be wise in all our decisions and our relationships. Help those choosing their friends or their spouses choose someone who seeks Your way in life. Grant us the honor of focusing on all that is good in life so that we can rise each morning with a heart of gratitude that we may not be drawn into what we do not have or have not yet achieved and be disappointed. Instead, show us something today that allows us to be thankful.

In our daily reading, we should take notes each day. What is God saying about me, about culture, about God, about our relationships with God and each other?

Day 23            Read Luke 19-21 Zacchaeus, Palm Sunday, The temple

Day 24            Read Luke 22-24 The Last Supper, Trial, Crucifixion and Resurrection

Day 25    Read    John 1-3            The word becomes flesh, Nicodemus

## **Going Deeper**

How does a soul actually come to its senses, wake up, become born again?

Lets talk through our own awakenings. What did it take for us?

Day 26          Read John 4-6 Samaritan woman, Feeding 5,000

Day 27          Read John 7-9 Festival of Tabernacles, The sinful woman

Day 28          Read John 10-12 Lazarus, Bethany

**Table time:**

1. What is the difference between wisdom and knowledge?
2. Name two or three things that prevent us from being thankful?
3. Do we believe something more after we have seen it happen?

Each week select one key verse that surprises you or confirms a deep seeded belief.

**Key verse for the week:**

**Weekly challenge:**

Talk with one person about HIS/HER spiritual awakening. There are two reasons to do this: to practice talking about our faith and to give others a chance to strengthen their faith.

**Week five**

Day 29

Read John 13-16

Sunday October 15  
The role of the Spirit  
Faith meets despair

Message notes:

1. Counselor, Teacher, Reminder, Convictor, Glorifier

2. The vine

3. From the pit of despair to the tree of life

**Prayer:** Lord, send us Your spirit to remind us. If we have wandered far away, draw us near. If we are in sin, convict us. Help us to bring glory to Your name and give us the strength to lead others into Your glory. When we see brokenness in life, help us not to turn away. Give us a heart of compassion and caring, and honor us by calling on us to make a difference. When others are ready to give up, help us to be the ones who bring hope.

In our daily reading, we should take notes each day. What is God saying about me, about culture, about God, about our relationships with God and each other?

Day 30          Read John 17-18    Jesus prays, Arrest

Day 31          Read John 19-21 Crucifixion and Resurrection, Peter goes fishing

Day 32          Read Acts 1-3 Pentecost, Peter's sermon

**Going Deeper:**

How has a relationship with Jesus changed your life?

Peter was changed from fisherman to leader. Talk about how God changes people. What tools are at His disposal? Name three

1.

2.

3.

Day 33      Read Acts 4-6 Ananias and Saphira, Stephen stoned

Day 34      Read Acts 7-9 Saul converted to Paul

Day 35      Read Acts 10-12 Peter's vision, Escape from prison

**Table time:**

1. What leads people to give up on faith?

2. What is the Spirit teaching you today

### 3. How do you stay connected to the nourishment of the Spirit?

Each week select one key verse that surprises you or confirms a deep seeded belief.

**Key verse for the week:**

**Weekly Challenge:**

Talk with someone, a relative , coworker, friend, about how they discern what is true? What do they use as a source, what do they trust? Write down three sources you would trust to be true.

**Week six**

Day 36 Read Acts 13-15

Sunday October 22

The church in the kingdom of God

Real leadership

Message notes:

1. Church starts

2. The difficulty with being salt and light

3. Real leadership in the church

**Prayer:** Father help us to represent You in all that we think and say and do. Move us to reach out to the broken and the wounded in our society. Where there is pain, help us bring comfort. Where there is loneliness, help us be present. Where there is despair, help us bring a ray of hope.

In our daily reading, we should take notes each day. What is God saying about me, about culture, about God, about our relationships with God and each other?

Day 37            Read Acts 16-18 Timothy, Paul, and Silas, Philippi, Thessalonica, Athens, Corinth, Priscilla and Aquila, Ephesus

Day 38            Read Acts 19-21 Macedonia, Greece, Jerusalem, Paul arrested

Day 39            Read Acts 22-24 Paul a Roman citizen, Sanhedrin trial, Felix

**Going Deeper:**

How were the early churches structured?

What was Paul's role?

What was Peter's role?

Identify the following people:

Priscilla

Aquilla

Barnabas

Lydia

Timothy

Silas

James

Mark

Day 40      Read Acts 25-27   Festus and Agrippa, Paul to Rome

Day 41      Read Acts 28   Shipwreck, Malta

Day 42      Read Romans 1-3   No excuses, God's judgment and  
faithfulness

**Table time:**

1. Three sources of truth: According to John Wesley, nature, reason, and tradition can all help us know truth or deceive us about what is true. All three must be set alongside the words of Scripture to remain valid. What do you think of this?
  
2. How is the church to hold fast the truth?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What is the greatest temptation for the church today?

Each week select one key verse that surprises you or confirms a deep seeded belief.

**Key verse for the week:**

**Weekly Challenge:**

Should the church try to influence truth as society has determined? If so how? If not, why not? Name one contemporary social view on an issue that society has presented as true which the scriptures state is not true, or the other way around. What issue does the scripture say is true and society has rejected?

**Week seven**

**Day 43** Read Romans 4-6

Sunday October 29  
Laws for the citizens  
What does it mean to live by a  
new law of the Spirit

Message notes:

1. Old and New laws

2. The law of the Spirit

3. Obedience and living above the law

**Prayer:** Father, help us know your Spirit and want to be willing servants obedient to Your desire. When we try to justify our thoughts or behaviors, we ask Your Spirit to challenge us to a new way of thinking. Help us discern when to connect with people and when to walk away, when to speak and when to be silent, when to lead and when to follow, when to hold on and when to let go.

In our daily reading, we should take notes each day. What is God saying about me, about culture, about God, about our relationships with God and each other?

Day 44          Read Romans 7-9    Life in the Spirit, No condemnation

Day 45          Read Romans 10-12    Israel, Spiritual gifts

Day 46          Read Romans 13-15    Submit to governments, Weak and strong

### **Going deeper**

How are Christians to live in the world and not be of the world?

What does Jesus mean about being salt and light?

Day 47      Read Romans 16   Good byes

Day 48      Read I Corinthians 1-3   A divided church, The cross is  
power

Day 49      Read I Corinthians 4-6   Dealing with sin in the church

**Table time:**

1. Why is it important that genuine obedience be difficult?

2. What are you changing about your life right now?

### 3. Is God helping you? How?

Each week select one key verse that surprises you or confirms a deep seeded belief.

**Key verse for the week:**

**Weekly challenge:**

Has the study of Scripture actually changed your perception of something that you thought was true and now think differently? What? The challenge is to tell someone about the change.

**Week eight**

**Day 50** Read I Corinthians 7-9

Sunday November 5  
Traitors  
True Freedom...the creek

Message notes:

1. Speak the truth in love

2. Draw the line in the sand

3. Cast out, the creek

**Prayer:** Father, difficult people are, well, difficult, but people who are deliberately disobedient and unrepentant are a poison to us. Help us to see if there is any offense within. Reveal Your truth to us and give us the strength to confess, forgive, and move along. We choose not to allow the distractions and temptations of life to get a foothold on our future. So give us strength; give us courage; give us wisdom.

In our daily reading, we should take notes each day. What is God saying about me, about culture, about God, about our relationships with God and each other?

Day 51            Read I Corinthians 10-12    The Lord's Supper, Spiritual gifts

Day 52            I Corinthians 13-15    Love, Worship, Resurrection theology

Day 53            Read I Corinthians 16    Take an offering

## **Going Deeper**

Spiritual gifts in the church: If you have not yet taken the spiritual gifts inventory on the website, take a few minutes to take the test.

Why do we take an offering every week?

How is our financial generosity connected to our spiritual gift and our commitment to the kingdom?

Human sexuality

Day 54      Read 2 Corinthians 1-3    Forgive offenders, The greater glory

Day 55      Read 2 Corinthians 4-6    Ministry of reconciliation

Day 56      Read 2 Corinthians 7-9    Repentance, generosity



**Week nine**

**Day 57** 2 Corinthians 10-12

Sunday November 12

Reconciliation

Genuine repentance

Message notes:

1. Does the center (truth) move?

2. Arguments

3. Reconciling love

**Prayer:** Father, help us to stay in Your love, help us love our neighbors and even our enemies without compromising Your truth. Allow us to draw others to You through our love for You and for them. Soften the hearts of those who are far from You and deliver those who are confused and challenged by deceptive principles and beliefs. Help us stand strong in love.

In our daily reading, we should take notes each day. What is God saying about me, about culture, about God, about our relationships with God and each other?

Day 58            Read 2 Corinthians 13    A warning

Day 59            Read Galatians 1-3    Paul's authority, The law and the promise

Day 60            Read Galatians 4-6    Freedom in Christ, Fruit of the Spirit

### **Going Deeper**

Let's talk about bearing fruit. Have you ever helped someone begin a relationship with Jesus?

Romans Road

## Four Spiritual Laws

### Seizing the moment

Day 61      Read Ephesians 1-3    Made alive in Christ, Saved by grace  
thru faith

Day 62      Read Ephesians 4-6    Unity in the church, family matters

Day 63      Read Philippians 1-3    Be like Jesus, Spiritual confidence

Table talk

1. Should you unfriend someone who is willfully disobedient to God?
2. What is the difference between being reconciled to a friend and reconciling your friend to God?
3. What is the major obstacle we face when trying to reconcile someone to God?

Each week select one key verse that surprises you or confirms a deep seeded belief.

**Key verse for the week:**

**Weekly Challenge**

Seize the moment with someone this week. Share the good news of God's salvation through Jesus with someone. Start by saying, "You need Jesus."

**Week ten**

**Day 64** Read Philippians 4 - Colossians 2

Sunday November 19  
Life in the Spirit  
Fixing our eyes on the good

Message notes:

1. Holiness

2. Good and bad

3. Fixing your eyes

**Prayer:** Father, with so much bad in the world we find it hard to see the good. Help us cast aside those things that tangle up our minds and lead our thoughts to division, apathy, and even hatred. Separate us from the evil in the world and empower us not just to see the good but to be the good.

In our daily reading, we should take notes each day. What is God saying about me, about culture, about God, about our relationships with God and each other?

Day 65            Read Colossians 3 - 1Thessalonians 1    Made alive in Christ,  
Faith that is heard

Day 66            Read 1 Thessalonians 2-5    live to please God, the Day of  
the Lord

Day 67            Read 2 Thessalonians 1-3    The man of lawlessness, be not  
idle

**Going deeper:**

The first time Jesus came: the new covenant.

Jesus will come again.

Day 68      Read 1 Timothy 1-3   Leadership, Church order

Day 69      Read 1 Timothy 4-6   Take care of each other

Day 70      Read 2 Timothy 1-4   False teachers



**Week eleven**

**Day 71** Read Titus 1-3

Sunday November 26  
Leadership in the kingdom  
Overcoming uncertainty

Message notes

1. Humility

2. Servant

3. Hungry

**Prayer:** Father, in my life, help me to follow where I am called to follow. Grant me leaders who follow after Your direction and consider other people important. When I am called to lead, grant that I remain humble of heart and carry a zeal for other people. Let me not get distracted by personal gain or the temptation to not care about others.

In our daily reading, we should take notes each day. What is God saying about me, about culture, about God, about our relationships with God and each other?

Day 72          Read Philemon - Hebrews 1    Jesus the last language of God

Day 73          Read Hebrews 2-4    Sabbath rest

Day 74          Read Hebrews 5-7    Jesus the great High Priest, Melchizedek

**Going deeper:**  
Jesus as a language

Sabbath rest

Two mountains

Shadow and reality

Day 75      Read Hebrews 8-10   New Covenant, Blood of Christ,  
Shadow and reality

Day 76      Read Hebrews 11-13   Heroes of faith, fixing our eyes on  
Jesus, Sinai and Zion

Day 77      Read James 1-3   Faith and works, watch your tongue

**Table time:**

1. Who has been a leader for you?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Has God ever called you to lead?

3. What are the obstacles leaders face today?

4. Revisit this understanding of Sabbath being “TODAY.”

Each week select one key verse that surprises you or confirms a deep seeded belief.

**Key verse for the week:**

**Weekly Challenge:**

For most of us, this understanding of Sabbath rest is new. How do you plan to discipline your life for more frequent Sabbath opportunities?

**Week twelve**

**Day 78** Read James 4-1Peter1

Sunday December 3  
The inheritance for the citizens  
Kept in heaven

Message notes:

1. Do something

2. Heirs are family

3. I am a kept man (woman)

**Prayer:** Father, allow us to see with great clarity Your desire to carry us home in victory. We thank You for preparing a great homecoming for each of us and anticipate our day with You. Though we see glimpses of Your glory in the beauty of the world around us and the love we get to experience, we know that the glory of this life cannot be compared with what You have established for us.

In our daily reading, we should take notes each day. What is God saying about me, about culture, about God, about our relationships with God and each other?

Day 79            Read 1 Peter 2-5    The Living Stone, Do good and live for God

Day 80            Read 2 Peter 1-3    Prophecy, The day of the Lord

Day 81            Read 1 John 1-3    Light and darkness, Love each other

**Going Deeper:**  
Faith in action

The descent into hell



3. The greatest thing we can achieve in this life is love for God and for each other. How do you give and receive love?

4. Talk about Jesus' descent into hell? Why does He do this?

Each week select one key verse that surprises you or confirms a deep seeded belief.

**Key verse for the week:**

**Weekly Challenge**

If you had to reveal your faith by doing something, what would you do? Now go do it.

## **Week thirteen**

**Day 85** Read Revelation 4-6

Sunday December 10  
Victory  
The coming heavenly kingdom

Message notes:

1. Our battle

2. Our weapons

3. Our victory

**Prayer:** Father thank You for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. May we in all things acknowledge Him and bring honor to His name. At just the right time in our lives, Jesus came as a man and died for our sins. At just the right time in our lives, He came to us as the Spirit and made a home within us. At just the right time, Jesus will come again in glory and take us home. Thanks be to You O Lord our God and to our Savior Jesus.

In our daily reading, we should take notes each day. What is God saying about me, about culture, about God, about our relationships with God and each other?

Day 86            Read Revelation 7-9    144,000, The seventh seal, the trumpets

Day 87            Read Revelation 10-12    The little scroll, two witnesses, The dragon

Day 88            Read Revelation 13-15    The beast, The lamb



**Table time:**

1. How have you already experienced victory through God?
2. Do you have any songs that reach your soul?
3. What are you doing to get ready for a final victory?

Each week select one key verse that surprises you or confirms a deep seeded belief.

**Key verse for the week:**

**Weekly Challenge:**

How does knowing Jesus is coming back affect your understanding of Christmas? Add a second coming symbol to your Christmas tree.

## **Week fourteen**

Conclusion Read Revelation 22 and Genesis 1

Sunday December 17

The City of God

The tree of life

Message Notes:

1. When the end is really a beginning

2. The city of God

3. The tree of life

**Prayer:** Father, when I close my earthly eyes I long to see Your glory, the city on a hill You have created for we who believe. Grant that we might live a life worthy of Your Son who died to make this vision possible. The heavens themselves declare Your glory and we simply seek to cry forth Your most Holy name. So we join the unending chorus of angels and saints: "Hallelujah to the Lamb who was slain. For He alone is worthy to receive glory and honor and praise. Amen. Come Lord Jesus!"

**Key verse for this week:**

Look back at all fourteen key verses. What has been confirmed? What has surprised you?

**Going Deeper:**  
VICTORY

BOOKENDS

**Table time:** As a whole group, celebrate the truth you have learned and how it changed your thinking..

**Weekly Challenge:**

Find a way to celebrate what you have accomplished and what you have learned. Write down the single most important lesson you learned.