

COVER TO COVER

THE BIBLE IN 10 MINUTES, 5 DAYS PER WEEK



10:5

We created this plan to capture the **highlights** of Scripture over the 22 weeks of the “Cover to Cover” sermon series. While this plan will not cover everything, it will give you a holistic perspective on the story of the Bible and what that means for your life today. Week 9 of the plan is below. We will update this plan each week so please check back weekly.

WEEK 9

Welcome to week nine of the “Cover to Cover” Bible reading plan. In week eight, we explored the books of Judges and Ruth. The book of Judges reveals the stories of 13 judges who led God’s people during the 350 years following Joshua’s death. The story in the Book of Ruth takes place during the time of the judges and tells a powerful story of God’s providence and redemption. In Week 9, we will delve into the first half of the book of 1 Samuel, which contains the account of the prophet Samuel and Saul, Israel’s first king.

DAY 1 The first three chapters of the book of 1 Samuel contain the account of the birth and the call of Samuel. Throughout this week and in the weeks ahead, we will see how Samuel played an incredibly important role in God’s plan for his people. In contrast to the strained relationship God had with his people during the book of Judges, we see that Samuel was open and willing to follow God’s direction in his life. Today, **read 1 Samuel 1-3.**

DAY 2 Chapters 8-10 of 1 Samuel, record the anointing of Israel’s first king, Saul. As we remember from past weeks, this is not a good thing. God wanted to be Israel’s king, but they rejected him. They wanted to be just like everyone around them and God gave them exactly what they wanted. As we will see in the days ahead, this does not work out well for God’s people. Today, **read 1 Samuel 8-10.**

DAY 3 In Chapters 12-13 of 1 Samuel we begin to see Saul’s arrogance. Not only does he take credit for other people’s victories, but he took matters into his own hands that should have been handled by Samuel. God’s response is to tell Saul that his days are numbered and he would be replaced by another man who would take God seriously. Today, **read 1 Samuel 12-13.**

DAY 4 To add to Saul’s arrogance, we discover in Chapter 14 of 1 Samuel that Saul is also incredibly self-oriented. At one point he is even willing to kill his own son over something foolish simply because he was jealous of his accomplishments. Today, **read 1 Samuel 14.**

DAY 5 In Chapter 15, we once again see Saul disobey God's direction, and this time, God rejects Saul. Saul would not lose his rule immediately, but God was no longer with him, and his replacement wasn't far behind. Today, **read 1 Samuel 15.**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is something that struck you or sticks out to you from this week's sermon?
2. What if every prayer you ever prayed was answered exactly as you wanted? How do you think the world would look different if all your prayers were answered your way?
3. Up to this point in our journey reading through the bible "Cover to Cover," we see God continue to pursue relationships with his people in their rebellion. Why do you think God desires to be with his people, even though they continue to rebel and fail?
4. How does the story of Hannah and Samuel contrast with the overall theme of disobedience and rebellion in Israel? What from their story can you take and apply in your life?
5. One of the themes Pastor Adam pulled from the stories of Hannah, Samuel, and Saul is that "God delights in faithful obedience." What are some specific ways in the weeks ahead that you can continue to be faithfully obedient to what God has called you to?

READ THE ENTIRE BIBLE IN 6 MONTHS!

Looking for a challenge? Follow the YouVersion "Read the Bible in Six Months" reading plan. You'll read through the **ENTIRE** Bible over the course of just six months. That works out to six chapters of reading each day a commitment, but certainly manageable, and one that's well worth making. Scan to start.

