

Readers have options and plans available for how to approach reading the Bible. The Bible's length alone makes reading it a formidable challenge. Dividing that reading up into digestible bites is necessary for any reader. Many readers thus set an objective for each day leading to a goal to complete reading the whole Bible within a year, half year, two years, or longer or shorter period. Various readers will have read the Bible in thirty days, sixty days, ninety days, or, at the spectrum's other end, five or ten years. Whatever your capacity may be, daily reading plans can help. A one-year plan may have the reader completing an average of about four chapters a day. Four chapters is not a difficult read, although the discipline then becomes to keep reading day after day. Miss a day or two, or a week or two, and the reading challenge grows, discouraging the discipline.

Electronic reading plans that chart and display your progress, and remind you daily of your goal and progress, can help establish and maintain the necessary discipline. So, too, can sharing your reading goal with another person or group, creating a sense of accountability, achievement, and even excitement. Bible-reading plans don't even have to be from cover to cover. Some plans help the reader see how integrated the Bible's books are, by having the reader read a chapter a day from each of four different parts of the Bible. Those plans give the reader daily continuity within each of four different books, while helping the reader see the connections between and among books. Other plans turn the Bible's canon into a chronological order. Reading the Bible cover to cover at least once in a lifetime, and perhaps several times in a lifetime, seems wise, though, even if at other times you skip around or read only favorite parts. The thing to keep most in mind is that reading the Bible is both a command and privilege. Discipline and achievement aren't the reasons. The reason is God.