



Pastors Guide



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Immerse Features

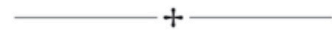
Natural Structure
The natural literary structures of each book are displayed by appropriate layout, simple line spacing, and graphic markers.

Maximized Readability
Line length, line height, font size, and spacing have all been thoughtfully crafted for an optimal reading experience.

Chapter and Verse Ranges
Displayed for quick orientation to the Bible text that falls on each page

Refreshing Reading Experience
Designed to be enjoyed like the bestseller it is.

1 CORINTHIANS



This letter is from Paul, chosen by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and from our brother Sosthenes.

I am writing to God's church in Corinth, to you who have been called by God to be his own holy people. He made you holy by means of Christ Jesus, just as he did for all people everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours.

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.

+ + + Alerts you to the book's significant structural transitions



I always thank my God for you and for the gracious gifts he has given you, now that you belong to Christ Jesus. Through him, God has enriched your church in every way—with all of your eloquent words and all of your knowledge. This confirms that what I told you about Christ is true. Now you have every spiritual gift you need as you eagerly wait for the return of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will keep you strong to the end so that you will be free from all blame on the day when our Lord Jesus Christ returns. God will do this, for he is faithful to do what he says, and he has invited you into partnership with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

+ Alerts you to important thematic turning points



I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other. Let there be no divisions in the church. Rather, be of one mind, united in thought and purpose. For some members of Chloe's household have told me about your quarrels, my dear brothers and sisters. Some of you are saying, "I am a follower of Paul." Others are saying, "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Peter," or "I follow only Christ."

Has Christ been divided into factions? Was I, Paul, crucified for you? Were any of you baptized in the name of Paul? Of course not! I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, for now no one can say they were baptized in my name. (Oh yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas, but I don't remember baptizing anyone else.) For Christ didn't send me to baptize, but to preach the Good News—and not with clever speech, for fear that the cross of Christ would lose its power.

The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God. As the Scriptures say,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise and discard the intelligence of the intelligent."

So where does this leave the philosophers, the scholars, and the world's brilliant debaters? God has made the wisdom of this world look foolish. Since God in his wisdom saw to it that the world would never know him through human wisdom, he has used our foolish preaching to save those who believe. It is foolish to the Jews, who ask for signs from heaven. And it is foolish to the Greeks, who seek human wisdom. So when we preach that Christ was crucified, the Jews are offended and the Gentiles say it's all nonsense.

But to those called by God to salvation, both Jews and Gentiles, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God. This foolish plan of God is wiser than the wisest of human plans, and God's weakness is stronger than the greatest of human strength.

Remember, dear brothers and sisters, that few of you were wise in the world's eyes or powerful or wealthy when God called you. Instead, God chose things the world considers foolish in order to shame those who think they are wise. And he chose things that are powerless to shame those who are powerful. God chose things despised by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important. As a result, no one can ever boast in the presence of God.

God has united you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made him to be wisdom itself. Christ made us right with God; he made us pure and holy, and he freed us from sin. Therefore, as the Scriptures say, "If you want to boast, boast only about the LORD."

When I first came to you, dear brothers and sisters, I didn't use lofty words and impressive wisdom to tell you God's secret plan. For I decided that while I was with you I would forget everything except Jesus Christ, the one who was crucified. I came to you in weakness—timid and trembling. And my message and my preaching were very plain. Rather than



Planning Guide

Before the campaign

- 8-12+ weeks out: Involve your entire church staff and key leaders in the initial planning for your Bible reading campaign.
- (If ordering Immerse Bibles) 8-10 weeks out: Designate a “point person,” whether yourself or another staff member, that will be the main communicator between your church and Tyndale.
- 4-6 weeks out: Begin promoting the campaign to your congregation each Sunday. You can download promotional materials including a [Graphics Kit at ImmerseBible.com](https://www.immersebible.com).
- 4-6 weeks out: Lead a training session with all of your group hosts and explain the heart behind this campaign. Reiterate that as group hosts their main role is to facilitate conversation. Be sure to have the Group Host’s Guide available.
- (If ordering Immerse Bibles) 4 weeks out: Order the appropriate number of copies of Immerse: The Reading Bible for your church.

- 3-5 weeks out: Create discussion groups that fit the context of your church. Try to have less than 12 people in each group. We’ve found that existing small groups work great! You will likely have to create new groups for anyone not involved in a group already. This is a great opportunity to onboard new groups.
- 1-2 weeks out: Distribute copies of Immerse: The Reading Bible or Bible reading plan (if using a different Bible/translation) to your congregation. Each copy will include an insert that contains a participant Quick Start Guide, reading plan, discussion questions, and URL for additional resources.

During the campaign

- Check in with your group hosts occasionally to see if anyone has any new questions.

- Take an active role in encouraging your congregation through their Bible experience. We recommend preparing your sermons based on each week’s reading, reinforcing that the Bible reading is central to your church’s spiritual journey for eight weeks.
- Upon completion: Celebrate! Finishing such a large portion of the Scriptures together is a milestone achievement. Make sure your congregation appreciates their accomplishment and begin encouraging a regular Bible reading rhythm.

After the campaign

- Encourage your congregation to keep immersing themselves in the Bible outside of whole-church campaigns. And invite others to join their book clubs. Keep reading whole books and talking about them together.
- If you had a great experience, tell other pastors about it!



Best Practices & Tips

1. Take the lead.

A Bible reading campaign like Immerse offers the opportunity to focus your church's attention on reading the Bible together during a specific period of time. As much as possible, make this the singular focus of your church together during these weeks. If you champion this experience, your church will follow.

2. Involve other staff and key leaders in the process.

This is a wonderful opportunity to break down the silos or barriers that can form between different areas of ministry in your church. Take advantage of this opportunity to come together as a team around a single purpose.

3. Include your entire congregation.

This isn't just for adults. Encourage your youth and children's ministries to participate and ask parents to use the Family Guide to bring this experience into their homes. Invite families to read aloud together! Cross-generational involvement will strengthen the bonds within your church and ensure one "heartbeat" for eight weeks.

4. Make it work for your context.

The materials and outline we've provided reflect what we believe is the best way for your church to experience the Bible together. But if something doesn't work for your church, we encourage you to adapt this program to fit your needs. Just make sure the core DNA is intact: reading at length and having honest, unmediated conversations around the text.

5. Keep it simple!

The evidence is overwhelming that simply reading the Bible as presented in Immerse: The Reading Bible and then discussing it in community has a powerful impact. The Holy Spirit works through the Word of God as people engage in reading the entire Bible. Even people who have read through the Bible multiple times are saying that reading Immerse is like reading it for the first time. So keep things simple and allow your church to enjoy the Bible as it was intended to be read—uncluttered and in community.



Immerse Reading Plan

Week 1

Luke-Acts, Part 1

Day 1 pp. A9-12
Day 2 pp. 13-27
Day 3 pp. 28-37
Day 4 pp. 37-47
Day 5 pp. 47-59

Week 2

Acts, 1 & 2 Thessalonians

Day 6 pp. 61-70
Day 7 pp. 70-82
Day 8 pp. 82-94
Day 9 pp. 95-110
Day 10 pp. 111-123

Week 3

1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Romans

Day 11 pp. 125-135
Day 12 pp. 135-148
Day 13 pp. 149-164
Day 14 pp. 165-175
Day 15 pp. 177-190

Week 4

Romans, Philemon, Colossians, Ephesians, Philippians, 1 Timothy, Titus, 2 Timothy

Day 16 pp. 190-202
Day 17 pp. 203-214
Day 18 pp. 215-224
Day 19 pp. 225-241
Day 20 pp. 243-255

Week 5

Mark, 1 & 2 Peter, Jude

Day 21 pp. 257-268
Day 22 pp. 268-279
Day 23 pp. 279-292
Day 24 pp. 293-301
Day 25 pp. 303-310

Week 6

Matthew

Day 26 pp. 311-324
Day 27 pp. 324-336
Day 28 pp. 337-345
Day 29 pp. 345-358
Day 30 pp. 358-366

Week 7

Hebrews, James, John

Day 31 pp. 367-377
Day 32 pp. 377-387
Day 33 pp. 389-396
Day 34 pp. 397-411
Day 35 pp. 411-423

Week 8

John, 1–3 John, Revelation

Day 36 pp. 424-437
Day 37 pp. 439-452
Day 38 pp. 453-459
Day 39 pp. 460-471
Day 40 pp. 471-482



Immerse Messiah: 8 Week

Available for free on Apple Podcasts, Audible, Spotify, and wherever you get your podcasts.



Standard Bible Reading Plan

Week 1

Luke-Acts, Part 1

- Day 1 Intros – Luke 4:13
- Day 2 Luke 4:14 - 9:50
- Day 3 Luke 9:51 - 13:21
- Day 4 Luke 13:22 - 19:27
- Day 5 Luke 19:28 - 24:53 (end)

Week 2

Acts, 1 & 2 Thessalonians

- Day 6 Acts 1 – 6:7
- Day 7 Acts 6:8 - 12:24
- Day 8 Acts 12:25 - 19:20
- Day 9 Acts 19:21 - 28:31 (end)
- Day 10 Intros – 1 & 2 Thessalonians.

Week 3

1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Romans

- Day 11 Intro – 1 Corinthians 7:24
- Day 12 1 Corinthians 7:25 - 16:24 (end)
- Day 13 Intro – 2 Corinthians 13:14 (end)
- Day 14 Intro – Galatians 6:18 (end)
- Day 15 Intro – Romans 8:39

Week 4

Romans, Philemon, Colossians, Ephesians, Philippians, 1 Timothy, Titus, 2 Timothy

- Day 16 Romans 9:1 - 16:27
- Day 17 Intros – Philemon & Colossians
- Day 18 Intro – Ephesians
- Day 19 Intros – Philippians & 1 Timothy
- Day 20 Intros – Titus & 2 Timothy

Week 5

Mark, 1 & 2 Peter, Jude

- Day 21 Intro – Mark 6:6
- Day 22 Mark 6:6 - 10:52
- Day 23 Mark 11:1 - 16:20 (end)
- Day 24 Intro – 1 Peter
- Day 25 Intros – 2 Peter & Jude

Week 6

Matthew

- Day 26 Intro – Matthew 7:29
- Day 27 Matthew 8:1 - 13:52
- Day 28 Matthew 13:53 - 18:35
- Day 29 Matthew 19:1 - 25:46
- Day 30 Matthew 26:1 - 28:20 (end)

Week 7

Hebrews, James, John

- Day 31 Intro – Hebrews 7:28
- Day 32 Hebrews 8:1 - 13:25 (end)
- Day 33 Intro - James
- Day 34 Intro – John 6:71
- Day 35 John 7:1 - 12:50

Week 8

John, 1–3 John, Revelation

- Day 36 John 21:25 (end)
- Day 37 Intros – 1, 2 & 3 John
- Day 38 Intro – Revelation 3:22
- Day 39 Revelation 4:1 - 14:20
- Day 40 Revelation 15:1 - 22:21 (end)



Immerse Messiah: 8 Week

Available for free on Apple Podcasts, Audible, Spotify, and wherever you get your podcasts.



Tools & Resources

1. Free audio version podcast

Full audio recording that follows the natural literary breaks found in Immerse: The Reading Bible. It is the full text of the NLT Bible with the Immerse Bible book introductions, and that's all. No additional commentary. Just the Bible.

2. Powerful video resources

Philip asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" The man replied, "How can I, unless someone instructs me?"
- Acts 8:30-31

In addition to sermon transcripts, you can find video resources to share with your groups from Immerse and Bible Project on their respective sites or on the One Million More resource portal.

3. Group host guides

Guides for facilitating discussion during the weekly group meetings.

4. Family Guides

Abridged reading, Hey-O! video and podcast Bible stories, and a guide for going through the Bible the way it was written to be read... together!

5. Church Graphic Kit

Kits for your church comms person or team. For use in church programs, PowerPoint slides, etc.

6. Weekly Email Templates

Guide your groups and book clubs each week with reading plans, helpful videos, and encouragement and guidance based on that week's reading.

Find all resources here

