

September 2025



The Three Gardens – Where are you today?

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. (Revelation 22:1-3)

The Bible opens with a garden. It closes with a garden. The first is the Paradise that was lost (Genesis 2:15). The last is Paradise regained (Revelation 22). And between the two there is a third garden, the garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36). And it is through the unspeakable bitterness and desolation of Gethsemane that we find again the glorious garden through which flows "the river of water of life." Without Gethsemane no New Jerusalem! Without its mysterious and unfathomable night no blessed sunrise of eternal hope! "We were reconciled to God by the death of His Son."

We are always in dire peril of regarding our redemption lightly. We hold it cheaply. Privileges easily come to be esteemed as rights. And even grace itself can lose the strength of heavenly favour and can be received and used as our due. "Gethsemane, can I forget?" Yes, I can; and in the forgetfulness, I lose the sacred awe of my redemption, and I miss the real glory of "Paradise regained." "Ye are not your own; ye are bought with a price." That is the remembrance that keeps the spirit lowly, and that fills the heart with love for Him "whose I am," and whom I ought to serve.

(Taken from John Henry Jowett's Daily Meditation)



Our Vision

To enlighten, enrich, and empower people to become dependent on God.



Our Mission

GODependence seeks to help people become dependent on God by engaging with God's Word and prayer.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on behalf of the GODependence Team. I thank God for the opportunity to reconnect with you through this newsletter once again.

In a world filled with shifting values and endless distractions, one of the clearest marks of genuine Christian faith is consistency. To a 14-year-old schoolboy who asked, “How can I keep myself from falling and also help others?”, the following challenge from the recently martyred Charlie Kirk makes us think even more deeply: “Read the Bible every single day, do what the Bible says, and tell others what it says.” When these practices are embraced with a sincere heart, they not only deepen our walk with God but also shine as a powerful witness to the world.

1. Read the Bible Every Single Day:

The Bible is not just a religious book—it is God’s living Word (Hebrews 4:12). Life is full of distractions, responsibilities, and noise that constantly compete for our attention. But just as our bodies cannot thrive without daily food, our souls cannot grow without God’s Word. Jesus said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’” (Matthew 4:4). Even a few verses, read with an open heart, can give wisdom, encouragement, and correction for the day ahead (2 Timothy 3:16–17). Consistency matters more than quantity. Whether it is in the quiet of the morning or before resting at night, opening God’s Word every single day is how we grow roots of faith that endure.

2. Do What the Bible Tells You to Do:

The Word of God is not meant to be read only—it is meant to be lived. James 1:22 warns us: “But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.” Jesus Himself said, “If you love Me, keep My commandments.” (John 14:15). Obedience may sometimes be uncomfortable, countercultural, or even costly, but it is always rewarding. When we apply God’s Word in our decisions, relationships, and daily actions, we become living testimonies of its truth. Real impact comes when our lives match what we read.

3. Tell People What the Bible Says:

The Good News is not meant to be kept to ourselves. Jesus’ Great Commission calls us to share His Word with others (Matthew 28:19–20). Romans 10:17 reminds us, “faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” When we speak God’s Word with love and conviction, it plants seeds in hearts that the Holy Spirit can water and grow. Sharing the Bible doesn’t always mean preaching a sermon—it could be as simple as speaking a verse of encouragement, explaining God’s promises to a friend, or pointing someone to Jesus in conversation. When we boldly and lovingly declare what the Bible says, we partner with God in changing hearts and building His kingdom.

Each day that we choose to read, apply, and share God’s Word, we grow stronger in faith and shine brighter in a world that desperately needs truth. Let us commit afresh this month to keep God’s Word at the very center of our lives; because when the Bible is alive in us, Christ is revealed through us.

Our team met on 7 September 2025 to plan for the International Day of Bible Reading (IDBR2025) activities. This year we aim to extend the IDBR activities to all 10 languages in which GODependence Bible Reading Challenges are conducted, and to as many countries as possible. Please continue to keep the IDBR2025 plans in your prayers.

The report of the 3rd Family Get-together of our GODependence Team, held on 1st and 2nd August 2025 in Bangalore, along with the Results and highlights of the GODependence Newsletter Survey, has been included in the newsletter. Thank you all for actively taking part in the survey.

Continue to pray for this ministry and help introduce its services to others. May the name of the Lord be glorified.



**In Christ’s service,
Dr. Pethuru Devadason.**



Do I Follow His Footsteps?

- R. Stanley



Eventhough the call to live like Jesus is sprinkled all over the New Testament, there's only one place where we are specifically told to "followHis footsteps."It relates to suffering. The one who wrote it is Peter, a disciple who watched Jesus closely in Histrial and death. 1 Peter 2:21, "To this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should FOLLOW HIS STEPS."Here are a few questions to examine ourselves. Spend a few hours in quietness before God going through this questionnaire.

1. Do I get upset with my friends when they are indifferent towards my aches and sorrows?

When Jesus was sweating blood in the Garden of Gethsemane, His closest disciples went off to sleep. Even after repeated requests they failed to share with Him in His soul agony. But He did not get angry with them. He simply exhorted them to be watchful in prayer and said, "Rise, let us be going!" (Mt 26:36-46).

2. Am I casual in prayer? Do I blame others or circumstances instead of my prayerlessnessfor my failures?

Jesus was subject to all sorts of temptation to sacrifice godly virtues while He was abused and ill-treated. But He won the battle in Gethsemane itself in prayer. On the other hand the disciples failed miserably in every instance. A "willing spirit" is no guarantee to overcome a "weak flesh" unless there is watchfulness in prayer (Mk 14:35-39).

3. Do I insist that God should answer prayer in my own way? Am I afraid to say, "Not my will but Yours, O Lord?"

It was not easy for Jesus to wholeheartedly accept the cup knowing how bitter it was. True He prayed thrice that He might be spared, but each time His prayer concluded with the words, "Nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will" (Mt 26:39,42,44). The Father God was so pleased with this kind of surrender that He immediately sent a specialangel from Heavento strengthen His Son (Lk 22:42,43).

4. Do I publicize or criticize anyone's weakness instead of praying for him?

Peter's weakness was stronger than his willingness. Jesus not only forewarned him but also prayed for him sincerely. He even encouraged him foretelling of his future ministry to his associates (Lk 22:31-34).

5. Do I hate someone because he has betrayed me? Do I forget that man is man and none but God is 100% trustworthy?

Jesus trusted Judas Iscariot with the money bag even though he had been a thief. Judas did not avail the opportunity Jesus gave him to change his heart. Neverthe-less, when Judas betrayed Jesus with a false kiss, Jesus addressed him as "Friend!" (Jn 12:4-6; Mt 26:50).

6. Do I use carnal weapons against my enemies? Don't I realize that no man can do anything against me beyond what God has permitted?

The healing of Malchus by Jesus was a rebuke on Peter's carnal act of cutting his ear. Refusing to use the sword even though we may have one is true spirituality (Jn 18:10,11; Mt 26:51,52). Jesus told Pilate, "You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from Above!" (Jn 19:10,11).

7. Does my reaction to an offense convict the offender or condemn him?

What Jesus predicted about Peter came to pass. Peter not only denied Him but also cursed Him. Imagine how hurting it would have been to Jesus! But His look at Peter was so full of understanding and compassion that it broke him to tears of remembrance and repentance (Lk 22:61,62).

8. When I am accused falsely, do I defend myself or leave it to God to fight my battles?

When the high priest asked Jesus, "What is it these men testify against You?", He kept silent (Mt 26:62,63). When Pilate asked Him the same question, Jesus answered him not one word! (Mt 27:13,14). Rather He witnessed to Pilate about the Kingdom of God and the Truth (Jn 18:36,37; 1 Tim 6:13).

9. Do I ask God to punish my enemies or pray that they may be blessed?

Jesus practised on Mount Golgotha what He had preached on the Mount in Galilee. (Mt 5:44; Lk 23:34).

10. Do I forget the needs and pains of others because of self-sympathy?

Jesus told the women who mourned Him, "Do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and your children" on whom difficult days were coming (Lk 23:27-29). In spite of His intense physical suffering, He ministered to the spiritual need of a robber who was crucified with Him (Lk 23:39-43). He also provided a care-taker son in His place for His mother (Jn 19:25-27).

11. Do I use prayer and spiritual gifts to impress people of my spirituality or glorify God?

If Jesus had prayed to His Father for angelic protection, battalions of angels would have been instantly despatched from Heaven for Him. How then could the Scriptures concerning His suffering be fulfilled? (Mt 26:53,54). Also it would not have been impossible for Him to accept the challenge of the ridiculers to come down from the cross. How then would a perfect sacrifice for sins be made before the Father? (Mk 15:29-32).

12. When I come out successfully through a trial or crisis, do I make those who did not fully support me feel awkward and guilty?

In spite of the fact that Christ's disciples betrayed Him, denied Him, cursed Him, and forsook Him, He never once reminded them of their failures after His resurrection. Rather He promised them beforehand, "You are those who have continued with Me in My trials. I bestow upon you a Kingdom ... that you may eat and drink at My Table in My Kingdom, and sit on thrones" (Lk 22:28-30). He sent them all over the world and went with them (Mk 16:15,20).

Source: www.stanleyonbible.com



Let's Praise God:

1. For those who completed Bible Reading in August 2025.
2. For the Bible Reading groups of September 2025 that have been started and are continuing in spite of many challenges.
3. For the children who participated in Phase 1 of the Children's Bible Reading groups, who read and memorized God's Word.
4. For the GODependence Talk show conducted in August 2025, which was held successfully and blessed many people.
5. For the Lord's grace in enabling the GODependence team to gather on September 7 to plan various events for December 16, 2025 – International Day of Bible Reading.



Let's Pray:

1. For the Bible Reading challenge groups begun in September 2025, and those who have joined, may overcome obstacles and grow in their reading of the Word.
2. For the 3 WhatsApp numbers of GODependence (used for Bible Reading Challenges in 10 languages) may be protected from being blocked in WhatsApp due to spam issues.
3. For the upcoming GODependence Seminar to be organized in October 2025.
4. For the events being planned for December 16, 2025 – International Day of Bible Reading; and that Christians all over the world may participate enthusiastically and celebrate it meaningfully.
5. For the children of the Phase 1 Children's Bible Reading groups who are preparing for the Memory Verse competition – that they may memorize many verses, present them well, and live them out in their daily lives.
5. That our monthly GODependence Newsletter may continue to be useful and edifying to many.

International Day of Bible Reading (IDBR) – 16 December

It was a privilege for the GODependence Team to organise the first-ever International Day of Bible Reading (IDBR) on 16 December 2023, in remembrance of Mary Jones - a little girl whom God used to bring awareness of making the Bible available for all to read and know God's Word.

Hundreds of participants from GODependence Bible Reading Challenge groups joined the inauguration ceremony held on Zoom, and through various initiatives, more than 5,000 people from different parts of the world became aware of this observance.

On the 2nd International Day of Bible Reading (IDBR 2024), held on 16 December 2024, we were able to arrange Zoom meetings in three languages. We also conducted a Mega Online Bible Quiz in English and Tamil, along with 8-hour Online Bible Readathons in both languages separately.

The 3rd International Day of Bible Reading (IDBR 2025) will be observed on 16 December 2025. Beginning this year, we have decided to extend the observance into an International Day of Bible Reading **(IDBR) Week (10–16 December each year)**, to make it easier for activities to be held regardless of the day on which 16 December falls.

For IDBR 2025, we aim to extend activities to all 10 languages in which GODependence Bible Reading Challenges are conducted, and to as many countries as possible. More details on the action plan and suggested activities will be shared in next month's newsletter.

Please continue to keep the IDBR 2025 plans in your prayers.

BIBLE READING CHALLENGES - From 01 October 2025 onwards

"From every text in the Bible, there is a road to Jesus." - Charles Spurgeon. We, GODependence, assist you to read the whole Bible at your convenient time and speed.

The following are some of the testimonies of our Bible reading challenge participants who successfully read through the Bible:

👩 "I am thankful to the GODependence team for helping me organize the time I was wasting, leading me to read God's Word, and guiding me closer to Him." – K. Jeyakumari

👩 "Through the GODependence Bible Reading Challenge, for the very first time, I have completed reading the entire Holy Bible. I am so joyful. Glory be to God." – M. Regina Praba

👩 "This Bible Reading challenge has been a wonderful journey of consistency and discipline, helping me grow deeper in God's Word each day." – Jovita J

Do you need any assistance to sustain your Bible Reading efforts? If yes, GODependence invites you to join one of the "Bible Reading Challenges" that start from 01 October 2025 onward.

Its Special Features are:

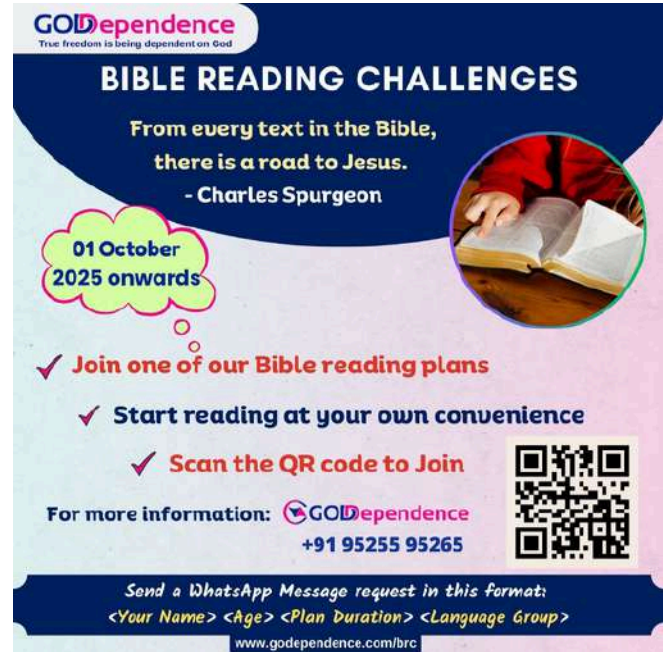
- ✳ Your choice of Challenge Duration ranges from 1 Month to 1 Year [Reading the whole Bible in 1 month / 2 months / 3 months / 4 months / 6 months or 1 Year].
- ✳ Your choice of Language group from 10 Languages [English, Tamil, Hindi, Malayalam, Kannada, Telugu, Odia, Punjabi, Marathi or Bengali].
- ✳ Bible Reading Portion is given daily on the previous night.
- ✳ Daily Motivational Quotes or Clips on reading the Bible.
- ✳ Weekly, BiWeekly & Monthly Reviews to ensure progress.
- ✳ If you fall behind, jump back in! Our reading plan includes Catch-up days & Changing of Plans because we understand real life!
- ✳ User-friendly WhatsApp groups regulations.
- ✳ Certificate of Appreciation and Prizes (*Conditions apply).

👉 So if you are interested in completing Reading the whole Bible, join in one of the Challenges we designed for your convenience. Please make your choice of convenient Duration plan and Language group and inform us of your decision along with your Name (as to be printed in the Appreciation Certificate on successful completion of the Challenge) and Age to the WhatsApp number +91 95255 95265 by clicking this link: <https://wa.me/919525595265>.

Thank you. God bless you. Amen. 🙏

- Team GODependence

*** 🙌 This message can be shared with all your family members, relatives, Christian friends, and Church members so that they also may get into the habit of reading the Bible in a regular manner!



The poster for GODependence Bible Reading Challenges features a blue and white color scheme. At the top, it says "GODependence True freedom is being dependent on God". Below this, the title "BIBLE READING CHALLENGES" is prominently displayed. A quote from Charles Spurgeon, "From every text in the Bible, there is a road to Jesus.", is included. A circular inset shows a person reading a Bible. A green speech bubble indicates the start date: "01 October 2025 onwards". Three bullet points with checkmarks list the benefits: "Join one of our Bible reading plans", "Start reading at your own convenience", and "Scan the QR code to Join". A QR code is provided for joining. At the bottom, it gives contact information: "For more information: GODependence +91 95255 95265" and a WhatsApp message request format: "Send a WhatsApp Message request in this format: <Your Name> <Age> <Plan Duration> <Language Group>". The website "www.godependence.com/brc" is also listed.

Scripture:
Philippians

LET'S PLAY BIBLE GAME - 11

Send the answers with Bible references.
You can use the Bible (NKJV) to find the answers



From the given pictures find the verses/name/place of Philippians

Find the verses

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9. Find the name

10. Find the place



<https://forms.gle/UdNeDE7rHSUuJEVm9>

Click on the given link and send the correct answer before 05/11/2025. The first 10 persons who send the correct answer will be mentioned in the next month's newsletter.

GODependence Social Media sites

GODependence WhatsApp Channel

This is the Official whatsapp channel of GODependence in English...

Kindly keep following this channel for the Daily Quotes in English and the regular updates on Bible Reading Challenges from GODependence. Thank you.



<https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029VaCY5W72WTq9nZKW28>



JOIN NOW!

Contact Numbers for the Bible Reading Challenges:

GODependence is using the following contact numbers for Bible Reading Challenges in various languages.

You can contact the appropriate number to enroll into a particular language Bible Reading Challenge groups.

Tamil - +965 6596 2559

English - +91 95255 95265

Other Languages - +91 99628 34944

[Hindi, Malayalam, Kannada, Telugu, Odia, Punjabi, Marathi or Bengali]

JOIN NOW!

GODependence Youtube Channel

GODependence Youtube Channel has reached 190 Subscribers and 64 Videos.



<https://www.youtube.com/@goddependenceenglish>



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DID YOU KNOW?

Did time have a beginning?

What is "time"? Did time have a beginning? Many scientists and scholars, including the renowned mathematician Sir Isaac Newton, believed that time always existed and had no beginning.

Time is the continuous sequence of events in the physical universe that unfolds in an irreversible progression from past to present and into the future. For time to exist, the universe itself must exist. Since we know that the universe had a beginning, it follows that time also had.

The Bible revealed this fact 2000 years ago. "Before the beginning of time, God gave us this grace by means of Christ Jesus." (2 Timothy 1:9).

The knowledge revealed in the Bible surpassed the human knowledge at the time of its writing.

If you haven't read the Bible, why don't you start it today?

Did you know that
Joshua prayed for the sun to stand still?
Joshua 10:12-13



Last month let's play Bible game-10 & Bible Crossword Puzzle -10 the correct answers

Let's Play Bible Game -10

Correct Answers

From the given pictures find the verses

- 1) Ephesians 5:16
- 2) Ephesians 6:12
- 3) Ephesians 4:29
- 4) Ephesians 4:2,3
- 5) Ephesians 6:18
- 6) Ephesians 1:4
- 7) Ephesians 1:13
- 8) Ephesians 3:18
- 9) Ephesians 2:7
- 10) Ephesians 4:24

**Scripture:
Ephesians**

Bible Crossword Puzzle -10

Correct Answers

Across

- 1 Paul (Ephesians 1:1)
- 3 Grace (Ephesians 2:8)
- 5 Prayer (Ephesians 6:18)
- 7 Spirit (Ephesians 5:18)
- 9 Hope (Ephesians 4:4)
- 10 Mystery (Ephesians 3:4)
- 11 Faith (Ephesians 6:16)

Down

- 1 Peace (Ephesians 4:3)
- 2 Armor (Ephesians 6:11)
- 4 Gentile (Ephesians 2:19)
- 6 Love (Ephesians 3:17)
- 8 Church (Ephesians 3:21)
- 12 Truth (Ephesians 4:15)



GODependence Bible Reading Challenges



Congratulations to the Successful Participants as on 31 August 2025

GODependence Bible Reading Challenges
Congratulations to the Successful Participants as on 31 August 2025

1 Month Bible Reading Challenge

1. Mrs. Esther Shanthini Raju
2. Christy Prabhakar
3. R Padmavathi
4. R. Jenita Abirami
5. Shunmugiah.M
6. VINO Jemima

Congratulations!

f X G+ i Y T GODEpendence +965 6596 2559

Prize & Certificate will be send to them in due time

GODependence Bible Reading Challenges
Congratulations to the Successful Participants as on 31 August 2025

2 Months Bible Reading Challenge

- Hepzibah Robert
- Josephine Jeya Amos
- Amulraj V
- D. Deva kiruba
- Hubert Subinraj
- J. Beula Padmavathy
- M. Mercy
- Pushpa
- R Rani
- R. Amuthaselvi Juliance
- Shoba Daniel
- T. Salomi Sakunthala Rani

Congratulations!

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Prize & Certificate will be send to them in due time

GODependence Bible Reading Challenges
Congratulations to the Successful Participants as on 31 August 2025

3 Months Bible Reading Challenge

1. A. Umamaheswari
2. Stanley Gnanaraj D
3. THENMOZHI. B
4. ப. அகஸ்டர்

Congratulations!

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Certificate will be send to them in due time

GODependence Bible Reading Challenges
Congratulations to the Successful Participants as on 31 August 2025

4 Months Bible Reading Challenge

- Pauline M
- A Hepsie Melba
- B. Selvi.
- David Shankar
- Herchil Harish
- J. Juliet
- R C VIMAL CHANDER
- RANJITHAM DEVAKUMARI.
- T. Prema
- YOGASUNDARI (a) HANNAH
- சலோமி புஷ்பராஜ்
- ஜான் கிறிஸ்டோபர் ராஜ் இ

Congratulations!

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Certificate will be send to them in due time

GODependence Bible Reading Challenges
Congratulations to the Successful Participants as on 31 August 2025

6 Months Bible Reading Challenge

- Joseph Daniel
- Jovita J
- Neeta Sanjay Dhanawade
- Shreyan Kumar Digal
- प्रदीप जालिंदर वारे
- Lidwin Annamary
- M. Priyadarsini
- MANI MALA C
- Mohanraj D
- R. PUNITHA HILDA.
- Shanthi D
- Solomon. P
- Y. Yakobu Raju
- K. Deena Kumari

Congratulations!

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Certificate will be send to them in due time

GODependence Bible Reading Challenges
Congratulations to the Successful Participants as on 31 August 2025

1 Year Bible Reading Challenge

1. Nikolas Biswas
2. S. STALIN RHENIUS
3. G. Christina Moses
4. I. Mary
5. K. Jeyakumari

Congratulations!

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Certificate will be send to them in due time

Onesiphorus

"A courageous disciple who refreshed Apostle Paul"

(2 TIMOTHY 1:16-18; 4:19)

Onesiphorus was a Christian from Ephesus mentioned by Paul in his second letter to Timothy. He is remembered for his faithfulness and kindness, especially for seeking out Paul in Rome when the apostle was imprisoned (2 Tim. 1:17). Unlike many others who abandoned Paul out of fear, Onesiphorus diligently searched until he found him. He refreshed and encouraged him, showing courage and loyalty. This was dangerous because supporting prisoners—especially Christians—could bring suspicion or punishment from authorities.

Most people would hesitate to associate with those in jail, unwilling to reveal friendship with convicts, but Onesiphorus did. That's why Paul prayed, "May the Lord show mercy to the household of Onesiphorus,

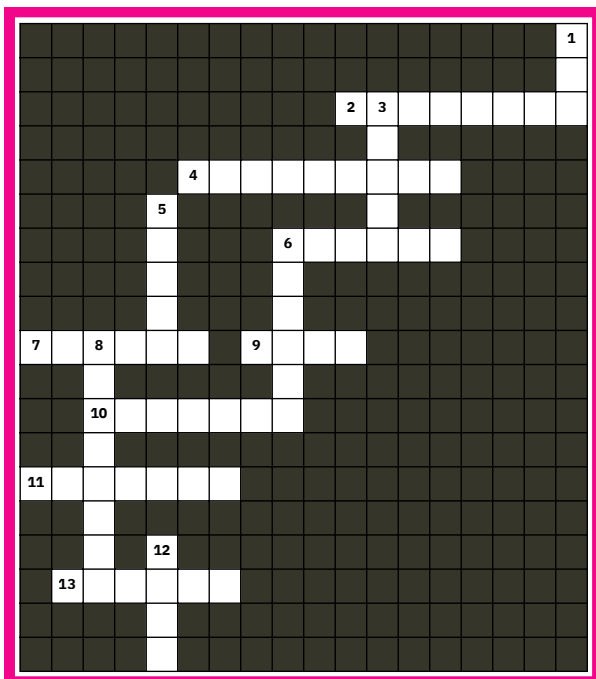
because he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains" (2 Tim. 1:16). This suggests that Onesiphorus ministered to Paul both physically and spiritually during his imprisonment.

Points to Ponder

- Am I ready to stand with believers who are forsaken by others because of their faith in Christ?
- Am I willing to reach out and help them, even if it means taking risks?
- Am I ready to associate with believers who have a lesser social status than I have?
- Am I able to refresh and encourage those who are weary under life's burdens?

- Bro. A. R. Peter, Palakad, Kerala.

Bible Crossword Puzzle - 11



Across

- 2 In ___ count others more significant than yourselves
4 Paul urged the Philippians to "work out" their own ___ with fear and trembling
6 In everything by ___ and supplication with thanksgiving
7 Partnership in the ___ from the first day until now
9 Let this ___ be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus
10 ___ in the Lord always
11 I have learned in whatever situation I am to be ____.
13 For to me to live is ___, and to die is gain.

Down

- 1 Complete my ___ by being of the same mind
3 Stand firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side...
5 The ___ of God, which surpasses all understanding
6 the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name, to the ___ of God.
8 I can do all things through him who gives me ___
12 Epaphroditus risked this for the work of Christ.



<https://forms.gle/NziuxsU6mc9EdZ2G8>

- Send the answers with Bible references.
- You can use the Bible to find the answers

- Click on the given link and send the correct answer before 05/10/2025.
- The first 10 persons who send the correct answer will be mentioned in the next month's newsletter



Bible Reading Challenges

Salient features of GODependence Bible Reading Challenges

1. Your choice of duration ranges from 1 Month to 1 Year. [Reading the whole Bible in 1 month / 2 months/ 3 months/ 4 months / 6 months or 1 Year].
2. Choice of Language - 10 Languages (English, Tamil, Hindi, Malayalam, Kannada, Telugu, Odia, Punjabi, Marathi and Bengali).
3. The Bible Reading portion is shared on the previous night itself.
4. Daily motivational quotes on reading the Bible.
5. Weekly, Bi-Weekly & Monthly reviews to check the Bible reading progress.
6. Catch-up days and Choice of changing the duration plans if required.
7. User-friendly WhatsApp group regulations - Exclusive group for Bible Reading.
8. Certificate of Appreciation and Prizes (conditions apply)
9. No fee is involved anywhere in the process, directly or indirectly.
10. Scope for further engagement with the Word of God (Bible Meditation, Bible Memorization, and Bible Study)

**A wonderful opportunity to read the Bible
regularly and systematically at your convenience.**

<https://www.godependence.com/brc>

Your Name, Place, Family, Christian Background & Upbringing:

Glory be to the name of the Lord. My name is Lydial Sulochana. We came from a Hindu family, and in the year 2000, we accepted the Lord as our personal Savior. Both my daughter and I received water baptism and were filled with the Holy Spirit. Later, I gave my daughter in marriage into a Christian family, and their family is being blessed by the Lord. I also have two sons, and they and their families still need to accept the Lord.

How many times have you read the entire Bible so far? And how many times through GODEpendence Bible Reading?

By God's grace, I had read the Bible fully only once. After that, I used to start reading every year, but could never finish it. This went on year after year. Then in 2019, I received a WhatsApp message about GODEpendence, where they shared methods of reading the Bible. It made me very happy, so I joined the WhatsApp group and began reading.

For the first time, by God's grace, I was able to finish reading the whole Bible in just one month, which was a great surprise to me. After that, I was able to finish in 2 months, 3 months, 4 months, and 6 months. Through GODEpendence, I was able to complete reading the Bible two or three times a year. In 2024, I finished reading twice. After that, I also joined a one-year group.

In what ways did the GODEpendence group practices help you to finish reading?

The Bible meditations given in the one-year group were useful to share in the prayer meetings, house visits and Zoom meetings. The prayer points given for interceding for the nation were also very helpful. Participating in the weekly Bible quiz and answering questions was always exciting. I usually don't get time to watch the videos shared in the group. However, I've been introducing GODEpendence Bible Reading Challenges to others, encouraging them to join, and everyone has been benefitting.

What benefits have you received from reading the Holy Bible?

The main benefit I've received through these Bible Reading Challenges is the joy of always being connected to the Word of God. Since the reading plan covers portions from both the Old Testament and the New Testament, it feels like walking through a garden and gathering all kinds of vegetables to use. This has been very helpful in using many Bible verses effectively in ministry.

What challenges did you face while reading the Bible, and how did you overcome them?

Because of my physical weakness, house construction work, eye pain, travels, and ministry commitments, I often struggled to finish reading on time. But I prayed earnestly that I should complete the reading within the given time. The Lord heard my prayer and gave me the grace to finish.

Finally, what would you like to share in a few sentences?

Please pray for the salvation of my two sons and their families. May the Lord bless this ministry and every child of God who labors for it. Amen.

CLICK THE FOLLOWING YOUTUBE LINKS TO SEE MORE TESTIMONIES There is no age limit for reading the Bible



BRO. JABEZ JEFFREY SMITH

Philippians

Time Written: A.D. 60 – A.D. 62

Time Events Took Place: A.D. 60

Author of the Book: Apostle Paul

Book Genre: Epistles

Book Introduction

- This letter brings out wonderful thoughts about unity and joy. It strongly emphasizes that these can be obtained through Christ Jesus.

Context and Purpose

- Being one of Paul's prison epistles, the letter to the Philippians was written in Rome. During his second missionary journey (Acts 16:12), Apostle Paul traveled to Philippi, where Lydia, the Philippian jailer, and his household were brought into Christ. A few years later the church there was well established. This letter is a gentle one written particularly to this Christian community that was close to Paul's heart (2 Corinthians 8:1-6). During his second missionary journey Paul converted many in Philippi. Though he was imprisoned, he miraculously escaped from prison. During his third missionary journey also, he came there (Acts 20:1,6). After Epaphroditus, who had fallen seriously ill, was healed, Paul wrote this letter from prison and sent it with him (Philippians 2:25-30). He writes this letter both to thank the Philippians for helping him and to encourage them to stand firm in Christian faith with joy and courage.

Key Verses

Philippians 1:21, Philippians 3:7, Philippians 4:4, Philippians 4:6-7, Philippians 4:13

Summary of the Book

- This was written while Paul was in prison in Rome, about thirty years after Christ's ascension, and about ten years after Paul first preached in Philippi. Its main themes are Christ in our mind, Christ as our goal, Christ as our strength, and joy through suffering. Though Paul was a prisoner of Nero, the letter was written with great triumph. The words "joy" and "rejoice" are repeatedly mentioned (Philippians 1:4, 18, 25, 26; 2:2, 28; Philippians 3:1; 4:1, 4, 10). The true Christian experience, regardless of circumstances, is the expression of the life, nature, and mind of Christ who dwells in us (Philippians 1:6, 11; 2:5, 13). With the famous and profound declaration about the humiliation and exaltation of our Lord Jesus Christ, Philippians 2:5-11 reaches its climax. In this letter Paul gives a self-explanation (1:12-26; 4:10-19); he describes his imprisonment; he exhorts the Philippians to be steadfast in sufferings (1:27, 30; 4:4); he urges them to be humble and united; he presents Jesus, who humbled Himself and was exalted by the Father, as their example (2:1-11; 4:2-3). Paul wishes the Philippian church to receive Timothy and Epaphroditus (2:19-30). He warns the Philippians against Judaizing (3:1-21). He thanks the Philippians for their support (4:10-20).

Jesus Christ in the Book

- As in many of his letters, Paul warned the new believers in the Philippian church, urging them to be cautious regarding the legalistic tendencies that kept creeping into the early churches. The Jews constantly tried to revert to the teaching of salvation by works. But Paul once again emphasized that Christian salvation comes only by faith and branded the Judaizers as "dogs" and "evil workers." In particular, legalists

insisted that new believers in Christ should continue to be circumcised according to the old covenant (Genesis 17:10-12; Leviticus 12:3). In this way they attempted to please God by their own effort and exalted themselves over Gentile Christians who did not participate in the rite. Paul explained that those washed in the blood of the Lamb would no longer perform rituals that symbolized the necessity of a pure heart. Application

- Paul exhorts us to be steadfast during times of persecution, "to stand firm in one spirit, striving together with one mind for the faith of the gospel" (Philippians 1:27). Another application of Philippians is the necessity for Christians to be united in humility. Since we are united with Christ, we should strive to be united with one another as well. Paul reminds us, "being of the same mind, having the same love, being united in spirit and intent," and setting aside pride and selfishness, "but in humility regarding others as more important than yourselves" and being concerned for the good of others (Philippians 2:2-4). If we all take heed to Paul's advice, conflicts in today's churches will be greatly reduced. Paul rejoices that Christ is preached (Philippians 1:8); he rejoices in his own suffering (2:18). He exhorts others to rejoice in the Lord (3:1). He also refers to the Philippian brothers as his "joy and crown" (4:1). "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice" (4:4-7). As believers, "in everything by prayer and supplication let your requests be made known to God" (4:6).

Book Outline

1. Introduction 1:1-11 (Greeting, Thanksgiving, and Prayer)
2. Paul's Personal Explanation 1:12-26
3. Christian Life 1:27-2:18
4. Plans regarding Timothy and Epaphroditus 2:19-30
5. Warning against Enemies 3:1-4:9
6. Paul and Philippian Friends 4:10-20
7. Conclusion 4:21-23

Two Days Filled with Growth and Encouragement

By the Lord's great grace, this year's family retreat was richly blessed. God enabled us to rejoice together as a family, praise Him as a group, share uplifting thoughts, and give Him glory for the victories achieved through His strength.

Worship Time:

"All you nations, clap your hands; shout to God with cries of joy." — Psalm 47:1

The Lord helped us worship Him for two days—without noise, but with dedication, reverence, and in a marvelous way that lifted our hearts toward heaven.



Message Time:

The Leadership of the King



We were prepared in a simple yet profound way to learn humility from the life of the greatest Leader, Jesus, and to understand the call to bear one another's burdens.

Carrying the Cross- Carrying the cross is not wearing the cross:

We were urged not to be mere wearers of the cross, but true carriers—following Christ without wavering, reflecting on His sacrificial life, and fully dedicating ourselves to bearing our cross.



Recipe for Revival:

Through a unique theme, we learned from Scripture the “ingredients” of revival—avoiding deceit, rejecting evil, and holding on to the life-giving Word that brings renewal.

Vision for Generations: Tech – To Exalt Christ

We gained an understanding of the value and importance of generations, the necessity of bringing Christ to each one, and were reminded of our responsibility to use technology for God's glory rather than selfish gain.





Life-Giving Word:

We recognized the greatness of the Bible we hold in our hands, and the urgency to treasure and protect it as our most precious possession.

Mental & Family Well-being*

The Lord ministered to hidden wounds of the heart, helped us realize that as our age increases, so do our responsibilities, and set us free from unnecessary thoughts and actions. We were reminded that though we are created uniquely, God Himself established the family. Before raising godly offspring, husbands and wives must walk in understanding and love, uproot bitter roots, and truly live as faithful partners.



Practical Reflections

A creative discussion helped us reflect on the past, consider present responsibilities, and plan for future commitments.

Evening Fellowship

A joyful time of sitting with children, becoming like children, sharing love without noticing time pass. It included self-introductions, family and ministry introductions, group discussions, and games—truly a blessed time together.



Captured Moments in Pictures



Behind the beautiful photographs were flowing love and warmth, showing the trust and unity that anchor family relationships—bringing us great joy.

A Feast of Flavor

The hospitality and delicious food we received filled us with delight. Alongside the six tastes of food, we were served a “seventh taste”—the sweetness of love. The meals not only satisfied hunger but also left us with tender, heartwarming memories.



“In Summary, this gathering brought revival to spirit, soul, and body”

GODependence Newsletter Survey: Results and Highlights

We are thrilled to share the encouraging results of our recent GODependence Newsletter survey. The overwhelming response from 34 persons demonstrates the deep engagement and commitment of our readership, confirming that the content is powerfully impacting spiritual lives and promoting dedicated Bible reading habits. Thank you for taking the time to provide valuable input.

Key Findings on Engagement and Impact

The survey revealed high levels of readership, deep engagement, and overall satisfaction:

- **Consistent Readership:** A significant majority of readers, **61.8%**, report reading the GODependence newsletter every month.
- **Deep Engagement:** Readers are spending considerable time immersed in the content. **Over half (52.9%)** spend more than 15 minutes reading each issue, while another 26.5% spend 10–15 minutes. This demonstrates that the newsletter is being consumed thoroughly, not merely skimmed.
- **High Helpfulness Rating:** The spiritual impact of the newsletter is clear: 85.3% of respondents find the newsletter "Very helpful" in their spiritual growth or Bible reading habits. Overall, 94.1% rated the newsletter as either "Very helpful" or "Somewhat helpful".
- **Aesthetically Pleasing:** The layout and design were highly praised, with **91.2%** finding the newsletter either "Very appealing" (44.1%) or "Simple but effective" (47.1%).
- **Sharing the Blessing:** The newsletter is actively shared! **70.5%** of respondents either share the newsletter occasionally (52.9%) or regularly (17.6%).
- **Future Contributions:** Many readers expressed interest in contributing, with **58.8%** saying they would like to contribute content (20.6% said Yes, 38.2% said Maybe in the future).

What Content Connects Most?

Your feedback confirmed which sections are most appreciated and engaged with. The top six most enjoyed sections include:

1. **Bible Reading Challenges Updates** (Highest engagement).
2. **Lessons from the Characters from Bible.**
3. **Testimonies.**
4. **Let's Play Bible Games / Bible Crosswords.** (Qualitative feedback also noted the usefulness of printing the crosswords for writing answers).
5. **Praise & Prayer Points.**
6. **Main Articles / Devotion.**

Personal Impact and Encouragement

Many readers shared how specific content has personally impacted them, with testimonies frequently cited as encouraging. Readers noted that the testimonies and the fervent prayer points have motivated them, helping them learn about the challenges others face. One reader specifically mentioned the joy of nearing the completion of their Bible reading for the first time, attributing this progress in part to the support provided.

Looking Ahead: Suggestions for Improvement

We value your suggestions for future editions. While many stated that the current format is "perfect" or "very good", key suggestions included:

- Improving picture clarity.
- Potentially utilizing professional designers.
- Ensuring content is brief.
- Requests for new features such as **Missionary biographies**, articles on **answered prayers**, detailed Bible study topics, **short messages**, and content specifically focused on encouraging **youth/students**.

The GODependence Newsletter Editorial Team is committed to maintaining the diverse, insightful, and engaging content you currently enjoy, while implementing these suggestions to serve you better. May God bless you!.

1



International Day of Bible Reading - 16 December

12 HOURS BIBLE READTHON

"Read the Bible: Renew your Life."

02-10-2025, Thursday
6:00 AM - 6:00 PM (IST)

Language: Tamil

GODependence - Tamil
YOU TUBE Channel

LIVE

If you are interested and have good internet, You can volunteer to take part in this event.

Contact: +965 65962559

International Day of Bible Reading 16 December

12 Hrs Bible Readathon

On behalf of the International Day of Bible Reading - 16 December, 12 Hrs Bible Readathon in Tamil has been arranged on 02 October 2025 Thursday from 06:00 am to 06:00 pm IST.

If you are interested, fluent in reading Tamil and have good internet, You can volunteer to take part in this event.

2



GODependence Talkshow - September 2025

Talk show for the month of September 2025 couldn't be arranged. It will be arranged in the coming month.

Bible Meditation Groups (BMG) - from October 2025

Due to unavoidable circumstances, the Bible Meditation Groups (BMG) we had planned to restart and to conduct them continuously will happen from the second week of October 2025 only.

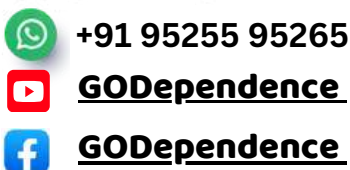
Notifications and details on the training will be sent in the Bible Reading Challenge groups in the first week of October 2025.



3

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GODependence Bible Reading Challenges



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