

December | 2025



The birth narratives of Jesus are uniquely recorded in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, offering complementary but distinct accounts focusing on different characters and theological points, with Matthew emphasizing Jesus as King and Luke highlighting His humility and divine favor. Every time we read the Gospel narratives on the birth of Jesus, it never bores us. Instead, we receive a fresh thought, a new spiritual strength, and encouragement to keep our eyes on Jesus. As I read the first two chapters of Matthew and Luke, three questions caught my attention.

- 1. How will I know this? (Luke 1:18)
- 2. How will this be? (Luke 1:34)
- 3. Where is He? (Matthew 2:2)

Zechariah and Elizabeth were very good and righteous people, but had no child. Due to their age, they might have lost all hope of having children. Perhaps they forgot their prayer, too. Nevertheless, God sent his angel to tell Zechariah that his prayer had been answered and that he would have a son. Thus, the angel foretold the birth of John the Baptist. Although Zechariah was in the service of the Lord, he could not believe what was told to him. So he asked, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is well advanced in years." Despite all the impossibilities they had in mind and in their bodies, God gave them a son who was a forerunner to Jesus, preparing the way for the Lord. Against all hope, the aged Zechariah and the infertile Elizabeth received an answer to their prayers.

Next, we read about a much younger girl, Mary, who was betrothed to Joseph. When the angel appeared and told her about the birth of Jesus, her question was understandable: "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" However, when the angel told her, "For with God nothing will be impossible" by revealing to her about Elizabeth's conception, her immediate response was "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.". In other words, Mary said, "YES" to God's plan without thinking or worrying about what others would say. Not only that, she rushed to greet Elizabeth. Upon hearing Mary's greeting, the baby in the womb of Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Then Elizabeth blessed Mary. After that, we read Mary's song of exalting and praising God. Mary was quick to obey and reluctant to accept praise from others (Luke 1:28,29, 42-45). She gave all glory to God and praised His name (Luke 1:46-56). The Bible tells the following about Mary: "Blessed is she who believed" (Luke 1:45)

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem, we read about the arrival of magi from the east. They went to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews?" They presumed the king would be born in a palace and went to King Herod. We are not told how long they travelled by following the star.

They wanted to worship the newborn king. However, they went to the wrong place to see and worship the king. They would have never expected that their right question in the wrong place would have a fatal consequence of killing so many innocent children. After a hiatus in their journey, they found their way to go where Jesus was and humbly worshipped him. Although Jesus was born in the lineage of David's royal family, he was not born as a king to save his people and country from their enemies. He is more than a king. Jesus was born to "save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). He is KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. "His kingdom will never end" (Luke 1:33)

Today, some of us may have similar questions: How shall I know that God will answer my prayer? How long should I wait for him? How can this happen when all odds are against and impossible? Where do we go to see Jesus? During the Christmas season, many Christians go to see grand Christmas mangers that remind the nativity scene. Millions of people search for God in pilgrimage places with the question, "Where is he?" The Bible clearly says, "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God" (Luke 18:27). We find answers to our prayers and hopeless situations in Jesus Christ. When we humble ourselves before God and worship him, he makes our life journey meaningful. May our Christmas celebrations be meaningful and give hope to the hopeless and guidance to the wandering souls to find Jesus.

- Arputharaj Samuel, Bangalore.





Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings to you all in the precious Name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, on behalf of the GODependence team. I thank God for giving me this opportunity once again to connect with you through this newsletter.

Throughout this month, we will be actively engaged in Christmas celebrations. May the words of the angel, "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people" (Luke 2:10), remain at the very centre of our celebrations.

Good Tidings: The very first words spoken by the angel on the night Jesus was born were, "I bring you good tidingss." Christmas does not begin with humanity searching for God, it begins with God seeking humanity and sending the good news. The first Christmas sermon was preached by an angel.

Even today, that same good news reaches us through the written Word of God. Just as the night of the shepherds was transformed when they heard the good news, the Holy Bible transforms our lives. Every time we the Scriptures, open we receive hope, forgiveness, messages of quidance, and life.

Great Joy: The angel did not announce an ordinary message of joy, but great joy. Christmas joy is not the temporary happiness found in gifts, lights, or celebrations, but a deep and lasting joy that comes from the assurance that the Saviour has come. This joy grows even more as we meditate on the word of God. The more we read the Scriptures, the more we understand the heart of the Lord, and our joy becomes deeper and unshakable. The shepherds first heard the Word and then saw the Saviour. Likewise, when we read and obey God's Word, we experience His presence.

For All People: The angel declared that the Christmas message is for all Therefore. Christmas people. celebrations are not the private observance of a particular group or merely a cultural event-it is God's gift to the whole world. Bible reading transforms us into messengers of the good news. When the Holy Bible changes our lives and conduct, we become carriers of Christ's love to our families, workplaces, and society.

Let us remember that the same good news announced once by angels to the shepherds on Christmas night has now been entrusted to us. As we faithfully read God's Word, He prepares us to share His good news with clarity, truth, and love.

The events related to International Day of Bible Reading (IDBR 2025) began on 16 November 2025 with a Bible Readathon program for children and have continued through a series of activities up to the present day. These events will continue until 16 December. This year, we planned to conduct IDBR activities in all ten languages in which our Bible Reading Challenges are held. By God's grace, He enabled us to complete these efforts in 9 languages.

GODependence Talkshows on the history of the Bible have been conducted in 8 languages, Bible Readathons in 6 languages, and Zoom gatherings in 7 languages, with many events continuing in sequence.

Details on how individuals, families, churches, and groups can observe the International Day of Bible Reading are provided once again in this newsletter. We believe that by trying out what is possible for you, it will become a meaningful opportunity for our neighbours to understand and Bible realise the importance of reading.

As we enter the second year, God has graciously enabled our newsletter to be published with richer content and a new look. Please continue to pray that our newsletters will be released without hindrance and will be beneficial to many.

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.



Praise & Prayer points for Newsletter December 2025

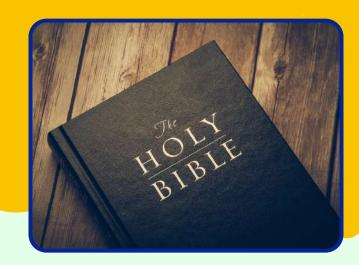
Praise God For:

- 1. All those who successfully completed their Bible reading in November 2025, and for each one who has joined the Bible Reading groups in December 2025.
- 2. Those who are participating in the 1 Month Bible Reading Challenge in December 2025 and sincerely reading the Scriptures.
- 3. The fruitful Talk Shows conducted in various languages-Hindi, Punjabi, Marathi, Malayalam, Bengali, Kannada, Tamil, and English-on the History of the Bible in their respective languages, in preparation for the upcoming International Day of Bible Reading on 16 December 2025.
- 4. The Lord's grace that enabled the release of our first newsletter of the second year in November 2025.
- 5. The opportunity to observe the International Day of Bible Reading (IDBR2025) on December 16, 2025, with the theme: "Read the Bible, Renew Your Life."

PP Let's Pray For:

- 1. Everyone participating in the December 2025 one-month Bible Reading Challenge to complete it successfully. Let even those who have never read the entire Bible before, finish reading it at least once in the year 2025.
- 2. As many people join our Bible Reading Challenges at the start of the New Year, pray that all the 3 WhatsApp numbers used for the GODependence Bible Reading Challenges in 10 languages are protected from being blocked in WhatsApp due to spam. Pray for God to grant wisdom to the GODependence team.
- 3. God's mighty hand to be evident in each of the events planned in connection with the International Day of Bible Reading on December 16. May many come to realise the importance of Bible reading through these efforts.
- 4. All obstacles preventing the restarting of Bible Meditation Groups to be removed completely, so that they may resume in the New Year.
- 5. Please pray especially this month for the Kannada Bible Reading Challenge groups.
 Pray that in the coming months many more will join the Kannada challenge and begin reading Bible, and that those already participating will complete the challenge successfully. Pray for the Admins of the Kannada BRC groups to be strengthened and guided by the Lord.

The Slogans of Protestant Reformation



Slogan 1:

"Scripture alone!" (Sola Scriptura)

John Wesley, one of the Revivalists of the 17th Century, emphatically said, "The Church is to be judged by the Scriptures, not the Scriptures by the Church!" Beloved, in the beginning was the Word, not the Church! What about Apocrypha?

The word "apocrypha" means "hidden." The Apocryphal books were produced between 200 BC and AD 100. They were not accepted by anyone as Scripture. But in reaction to the Protestant Reformers, in order to support their practices of praying for the dead (in purgatory), forgiveness of sins through good deeds, etc., the Roman Catholics added these books to the Bible in 1546. So they have 46 Books in the Old Testament instead of 39. But the New Testament never quotes from Apocrypha which the Roman Catholic Church later adopted.

Can we then quote from the sayings of non-Christian poets and dramatists? Whatever may be the moral content of these sayings, they can only impart "knowledge," and not "wisdom" unto soul salvation like the Bible (2 Timothy 3:15). Quoting from secular writers occasionally is not wrong. Apostle Paul, while addressing the idol-worshippers in Athens from Mars Hill, said, "Some of your own poets have said, We are also God's offspring!" (Acts 17:28).

Our entire life must be characterised by "what the Bible says!" Look at these passages which emphasize this point: Matthew 21:42, John 7:38, Romans 4:3, 10:8, 11:2, Galatians 4:30, 1 Timothy 5:18, James 4:5). If our faith is not founded on Bible the Word of God, how do we know that Christ died and rose again?

Do we have any actual photograph of Christ's crucifixion? There's more than one empty tomb in Israel. Which one did Jesus occupy? Our belief in Crucifixion and Resurrection is solely based on what the Bible says. Apostle Paul rightly wrote to the Corinthian Christians, "Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and was buried, and rose again the third day according to the Scriptures" (1 Corinthians 15:3,4). He says that this is the word by which they were "saved" and they were to "stand firm" on it (vv1,2). No wonder the primary attack of the devil is on God's Word. He injected unbelief into Eve's mind with the question, "Has God SAID?" (Genesis 3:1).

Very few Christians have read through the entire Bible atleast once. There's no unnecessary or unimportant passage in any of the 66 Books of the Bible. There are truths to be learnt from genealogical passages too! Apostle Paul stressed to young Timothy, "ALL Scripture is profitable" (2 Timothy 3:16). Growth from childhood to manhood in Christian life is through the Scripture only (vv15,17). Neglecting any portion of the Bible will be to our disadvantage. God in His wisdom has revealed the truth to us in His Word both through "teaching" and "testimony" (Isaiah 8:20). We need no other source to understand His mind (v19). Get hold of a reading plan to read through the entire Bible.

(My 60-page booklet, the Bible Calendar, presents a plan to read through the Bible over a period of two years, and memorise 100 verses per year.) However spiritual an experience may appear, we don't arrive at truth based on it. Don't judge truth by experience, judge every experience by the Bible. We are not obliged to endorse or embrace any experience that's not confirmed by the plain teaching of the Scripture. Sola Scriptura!

Let's remember the nearly 200 languages in India that still have no Bible.

The privilege of having the Bible in our mother tongue in so many versions adds to our responsibility (Luke 12:48). Thank God for Martin Luther, who translated the Bible from Latin into German for commoners to read and understand. He did it against all odds.

Book of books, our people's strength,

Stateman's, teacher's, hero's treasure,

Bringing freedom, spreading truth,

Shedding light that none can measure!

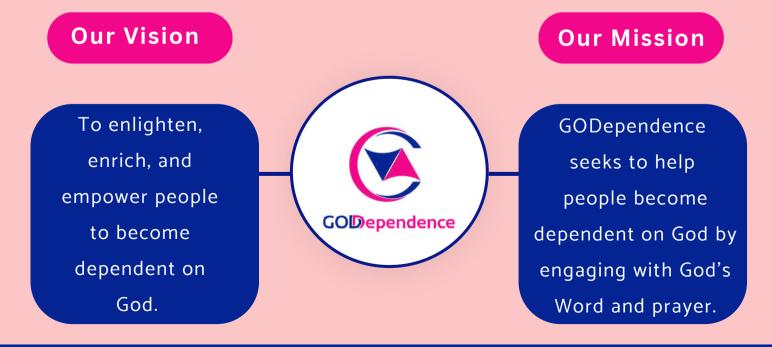
Wisdom comes to those who know thee.

All the best we have we owe thee. - Percy Dearmer, 1867-1936

-It will be continued...

(Selected from Bro. R. Stanley's book "Here I Stand")

Our Vision & Our Mission

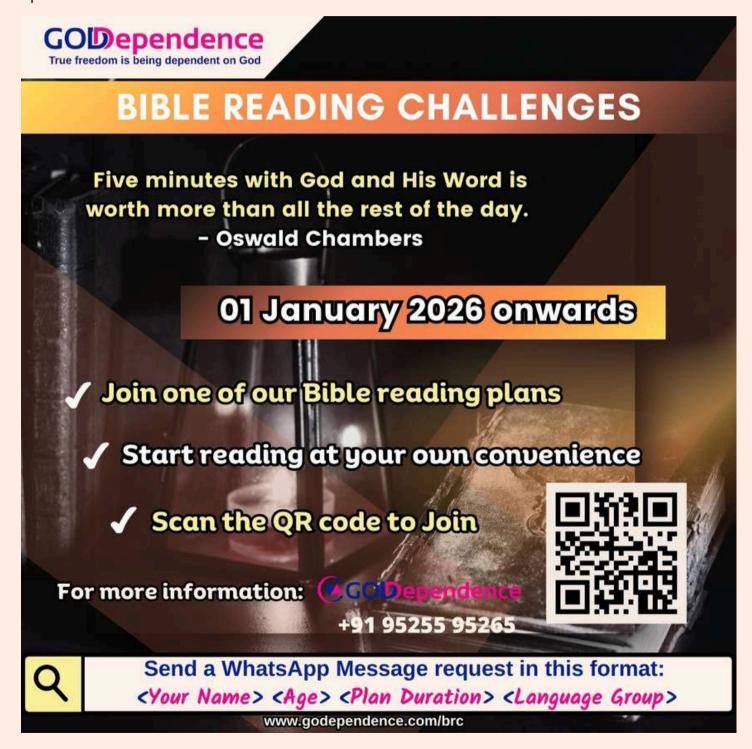


Bible Reading Challenges

From 01 January 2026 onwards

"Five minutes with God and His Word is worth more than all the rest of the day." - Oswald Chambers

We, GODependence, assist you to read the whole Bible at your convenient time and speed.



Bible Reading Challenges

From 01 January 2026 onwards

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

- "This Bible Reading Challenge has been a wonderful experience. Every morning, as soon as I wake up, the first thing I look for in the group is the day's Bible reading portion. Not a single day passed without reading the Bible. When I started each day by reading the Bible, all the unnecessary fears within me began to leave." Juliet Balaji
- "Through this Bible Reading Challenge, after many years, I have completed reading the entire Bible in a short period (within 3 months). I have also been encouraging others to read the Bible. Even then, I felt that we too must intentionally and diligently do something consistently, so I chose this challenge. Truly, this Bible Reading Plan has taught me many valuable lessons." K. Jebajayaraj
- "For many years I had been trying to read the Bible completely. By God's grace, I finally finished reading the entire Bible in 6 months. It is truly a dream come true. My heartfelt thanks to everyone behind the GODependence Bible Reading Challenges." Belsi Arokiamary 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 November 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!

Bible Reading Challenges

From 01 Janaury 2026 onwards

- ★ 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!

IRBR Week - 10 to 16 December

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.

IRBR 2025 Theme

"Read the Bible; Renew your Life."

For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have

GODependence Bible Reading Challenges



Bible Reading Challenges

6 Plans in 10* Languages

Reading Planner

*OUR BIBLE READING CHALLENGES START ON THE FIRST DAY OF EVERY MONTH.

1 MONTH READING CHALLENGE

Every day 45 chapters

Reading time

2 hours 30 mins

2 MONTHS
READING
CHALLENGE

Every day 22 chapters

Reading time

1 hour 30 mins

3 MONTHS READING CHALLENGE

Every day 15 chapters

Reading time

60 minutes

You can choose a convenient plan

4 MONTHS
READING
CHALLENGE

Every day 11 chapters

Reading time

45 minutes

6 MONTHS
READING
CHALLENGE

7 or 8 chapters

Reading time

25 minutes

1 YEAR READING CHALLENGE

Every day

Reading time

3 or 4 chapters

15 minutes

Why delay? Join today! Contact: (6) +965 6596 2559

Send a WhatsApp Message request in this format: <Your Name> <Age> <Plan Duration> <Language Group>.

*You can join any reading plan that fits your desire and language.

*Our reading plans are available in English, Tamil, Hindi, Malayalam, Kannada, Telugu, Odia, Punjabi, Marathi and Bengali languages.

There are four principles we need to maintain: First, read the Word of God. Second, consume the Word of God until it consumes you. Third, believe the Word of God.

GODependence Bible Reading Challenges



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].
- Choice of Language 10 Languages (English, Tamil, Hindi, Malayalam, Kannada, Telugu, Odia, Punjabi, Marathi and Bengali).
- The Bible Reading portion is shared on the previous night itself.
- 4. Daily motivational quotes on reading the Bible.
- Weekly, Bi-Weekly & Monthly reviews to check the Bible reading progress.
- Catch-up days and Choice of changing the duration plans if required.
- User-friendly WhatsApp group regulations Exclusive group for Bible Reading.
- 8. Certificate of Appreciation and Prizes (conditions apply)
- 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

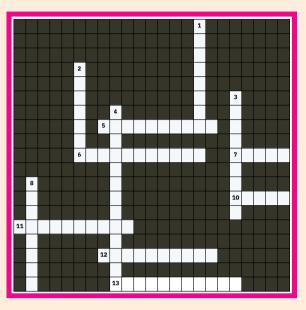
Bible Crossword Puzzle-14





Across:

- 5 The one who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god
- 6 Believers are commanded to not associate with anyone who is this
- 7 Paul emphasizes the importance of continuing to do what is 'commendable' and not losing what?
- 9 An action that brings about 'trouble' to those who trouble the believers
- 10 What Paul wishes for the Thessalonians from God the Father
- 11 A type of person Paul warns about being 'idle' and 'disorderly'
- 12 The title of the one who restrains lawlessness, according to Paul
- 13 God will render _____ to those who trouble believers



Down

- 1 Paul remembered their 'labor of ___'
- 3 What the Thessalonians turned from to serve the living God
- 4 A term Paul used for believers who had died
- 5 Paul remembered their 'work of ___'
- 8 Sent by Paul to strengthen the Thessalonians' faith
- 12 Paul was gentle, like a ___ caring for her children



Notes: Send the answers with Bible references.

You can use the Bible to find the answer.

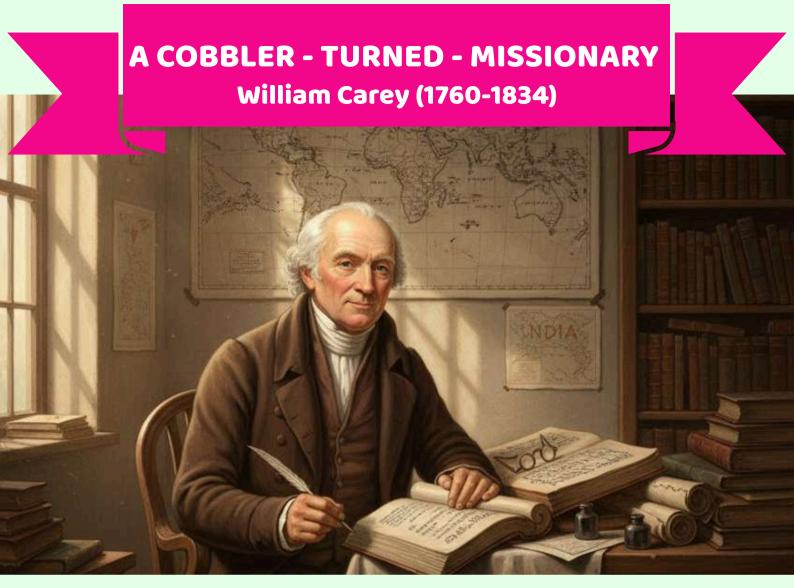


Click on the given link and send the correct answer before 25/12/2025.

The first 10 persons who send the correct answer will be mentioned in the next month's newsletter

The names of the people who participated in the Bible Crossword Puzzle - 13 in last month's issue and sent in the correct answers.

Thara Varghese



Carey in India:

Continuing from the previous issue...

The way was now open for Carey to go as a missionary. But where should he go? He thought of the South Sea Islands and West Africa. But God had India in mind for Carey. So He sent one Dr. Thomas, who had been in India, to meet Carey Carey was influenced by the enthusiasm of this man and decided to go with him as a missionary to India. The Chairman of the new Missionary Society, with a few others, pledged to stand behind Carey in prayer and financial help. Carey was 33 years old when he decided to go as a missionary to India.

After much planning and some delay due to some obstacles, Carey, his family and Dr. Thomas sailed for India on June 13th, 1793. After a difficult journey they landed in India at Calcutta in November. Carey had with him his wife, his four children and his sister-in-law. None of them shared with him his interest in winning the people of India to Christ.

His friends and relations thought that he was mad to land in a foreign country with very little money on hand and with very few back to him. But Carey was very enthusiastic and hopeful. He had begun to study the Bengali language during the long sea voyage. Later, he learned Hindustani, Persian, Marathi and Sanskrit languages. Soon after landing in India, he began preaching to the Indian people and translating the Scriptures into Bengali. Surely God had prepared him with a love of languages for this task!

During his first year in India, the whole family, one after another, fell ill. His little boy, five-year-old Peter, died of fever. No Hindu or Muslim worker was willing to dig the grave and so Carey himself, in spite of his weakness due to ill health, began to dig. Just then two servants came to his help and Carey nearly wept with gratitude.

To support himself, Carey worked as the manager of an indigo factory. He also had a printing press for printing the Scripture. After some time, he lost his job because the business failed. His printing press also was destroyed by fire. However, none of these things could discourage Carey. His one question was, "How shall I help India?"

How God used Carey:

After seven years of hard labour, Carey baptised his first convert, Krishnu Pal, a carpenter. Though he suffered much for becoming a Christian, Krishnu remained true and won many others also. In 1798, four more men came from England to join Carey. They built a great mission centre at Serampore and from there they went out all over India preaching Christ and establishing schools for boys and girls. They also had a large press for printing booklets and Scripture In 1800, Carey founded Serampore College. He also founded an orphan home and a leprosy hospital. By 1815, nearly twenty-two years after he landed in India, he had 765 converts. Before he died, 26s.

Indian churcheshad been established. Carey was appointed as Professor of Bengali in the Government College at Calcutta. Later he taught Marathi and Sanskrit also in that college. He served as professor for 30 years. Much of his salary was given for God's work and only a little portion was kept for self.

By 1800 the entire New Testament had been translated into Bengali. Before his death he had translated the New Testament into more than 40 languages of the East, and in about 20 of these languages he had translated both the Old and New Testaments. It is said that he gave the Bible to one third of the world. Also, through his influence the Government passed a law forbidding the burning of widows alive on the funeral pyre of their husbands. He was also responsible for stopping the sacrifice of children by throwing them into the Ganges River.

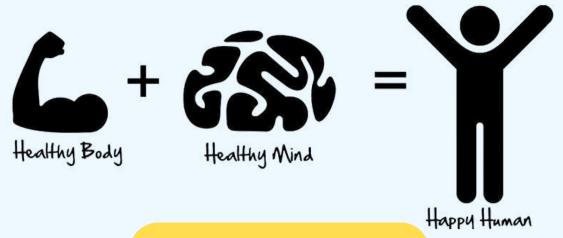
In spite of all these accomplishments Carey always regarded himself as an unprofitable servant, saying that he was "of little use". To a friend who visited during his last days, he said, "When I am gone, say nothing about Dr. Carey - speak about Dr. Carey's Saviour".

In his seventy-second year after revising the eighth edition of his translation of the Bengali New Testament, Carey said, "My work is done. I have nothing more

to do but to wait the will of God." Two years later, in June 1834, he died and his body was laid to rest in his beloved India. He had labored and spent 41 years of his life in India without once returning to his mother-country. The fruit of his labors still remains and he could truly be called "the father of modern missions."

[From "Servants of the Cross" by Theodore Williams, Outreach Publications]

Before we first knew God, first experienced Him, the scriptures of the Bible were just words in a book, a story. That changed when we first came to know God.



DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know the Bible revealed the relationship between mental health and physical health?

In modern times, this knowledge is attributed to Dr. Brock Chisholm, the first Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) during 1948-53. He was a psychiatrist who believed that mental and physical health were closely linked. He famously said, "Without mental health, there can be no true physical health."

But it is amazing to know that the Bible revealed this information in the 9th century BC itself.

"A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones."

(Proverbs 17:22, Bible).

Are you eager to learn from the Creator of your body and mind? Read the Bible.



Did you know?

Did you know?

Linguistic studies show Job may predate Abraham.



Did you know?

Did you know that the Bible described a scientific truth thousands of years before modern science?

In Job 26:7, it says: "He hangs the earth on nothing." This amazingly aligns with the scientific fact that Earth is suspended in space, held in orbit by gravity – discovered much later.



International day of Bible Reading

16 December



- Every year, the International Day of Bible Reading (IDBR) is observed on 16 December. Any reasons? It is the birthday of Mary Jones, who was born on 16th December 1784 and inspired the founding of the British and the foreign Bible society.
- Who was this Mary Jones? and what was her relation in regarding to Bible?



- In a small village nestled in the Welsh countryside, Mary was born in a poor but deeply faithful family
- Life was not easy, and material possessions were few, but Mary had something far greater than riches. She had a heart full of love for God.
- From a young age, Mary developed a longing to read the Bible for herself, but in those days, Bibles were scarce, especially in her native Welsh language. There was no Bible in Mary's home, and in her entire village, there was only one, and it belonged to a kind neighbour who allowed her to visit and read it when she could.
- As Mary sat and read those precious words, her desire grew.
- She longed to own a Bible of her own, to hold it in her hands, to read it whenever she wanted, and to treasure it in her heart.
- But how could a poor girl like Mary ever afford such a treasure? As a Bible cost far more than a family could afford.
- Yet Mary was determined.
- At just nine years old, she made a decision that would shape the rest of her life. She began saving every penny she could.

- For six long years, she worked tirelessly doing chores, running errands and helping neighbors, always setting aside the small coins she earned.
- Finally, when Mary was 15 years old, she had saved enough money. But there was another challenge.
- The nearest place to buy a Bible was in the town of Bala, a full 26 miles away that is around 42 km distance. If she wanted a Bible, she would have to walk such a long distance.
- And early one morning, Mary set out on her journey barefoot. The rough and stony paths hurt her feet, but Mary pressed on, her heart filled with hope and determination.
- She walked for hours, crossing hills and valleys, until she finally reached Bala. There, she went to the home of Rev. Thomas Charles, a minister known for his work in spreading the gospel.
- When Mary told him her story and offered her hard-earned savings, Rev.
 Charles was deeply moved. He had only a few Bibles left, but he made sure
 Mary received one.
- As Mary held the Bible in her hands for the first time, tears of joy streamed down her face. Her dream had come true. She returned home, her Bible, a cherished possession that she would read, study, and treasure for the rest of her life.
- Mary's story did not end there. Her determination and passion inspired Rev
 Thomas Charles to take action. She shared Mary's story with others, and
 soon, it sparked a movement to ensure that no one would have to go
 without a Bible. In 1804, just a few years later, the British and Foreign Bible
 Society was founded.
- Mary Jones walked 26 miles barefoot to own a Bible. She saved for six years because she knew the value of God's word. Today, most of us don't have

to make such sacrifices. We have the Bible in our homes, on our phones and in countless languages. But do we treasure it as Mary did?

As we celebrate the International Day of Bible Reading, let Mary's story inspire us to read, study and live out God's word.

Let us be reminded that the Bible is not just a book. It is the living, breathing word of God, a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

Mary Jones' story is not just her own.

It is ours. Her love for the Bible invites us to renew our own commitment to God's word and to share its message with the world that still longs for its light.

Last month let's play Bible game-13 & Bible Crossword Puzzle -13 correct answers

Bible Crossword Puzzle - 13

14 Hope (1 Thes 1:3)

Across:	Down:
2 Thief (1 Thes 5:2)	1 Love (1 Thes 1:3)
6 Gospel (1 Thes 1:5)	3 Idols (1 Thes 1:9)
7 satan (1 Thes2:18)	4 Asleep (1 Thes 4:13)
8 Trumpet (1 Thes 4:16)	5 faith (1 Thes 1:3)
9 Helmet (1 Thes 5:8)	8 Timothy (1 Thes 3:2)
10 Paul (1 Thes 1:1)	12 Nurse(1 Thes 2:7)
11 Athens (1 Thes 3:1)	
13 Joy (1 Thes 1:6)	

let's play Bible game-13

- 1) 1 Thessalonians 5:8
- 2) 1 Thessalonians 2:12
- 3) 1 Thessalonians 3:8
- 4) 1 Thessalonians 5:17
- 5) 1 Thessalonians 4:7
- 6) 1 Thessalonians 4:16
- 7) 1 Thessalonians 2:7
- 8). Athens 3 1
- 9). Macedonia 1 7
- 10) Achaia 1 7

Whether we are reading the Bible for the first time or standing in a field in Israel next to a historian and an archaeologist and a scholar, the Bible meets us where we are.

CORNELIUS

The first Gentile Christian

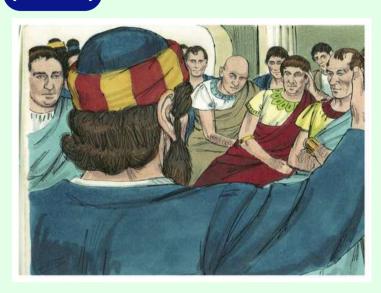
(ACTS 10)

Cornelius was a Roman centurion at Caesarea. He and his family were God-fearing. He gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly.

One afternoon, an angel appeared to him and instructed him to send men to Joppa and bring Peter from Simon the tanner's house. Cornelius sent three men to Joppa. The next day, they found the city.

At that time, Peter went up to the roof to pray. He saw something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners. contained all kinds of animals. reptiles, and birds. Then a voice told him, "Get up, Peter. Kill and eat." Peter said that he had not eaten anything unclean. The voice spoke to him, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean." This happened three times, and then the sheet was taken back to heaven.

Immediately after that, the three men arrived at the house and reported the purpose.



he next day, Peter and others left for Caesarea with those men. Cornelius them. He welcomed had called together a large number of his relatives and friends. While Peter was sharing the gospel with them, the Holy Spirit came upon those Gentiles. They began speaking in and praising God. Then tongues Peter and the other believers baptised all of them.

Lessons:

- Love the Lord, pray, and help the needy.
- Lay aside prejudice and be ready to obey God whenever He commands.

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

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.





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.

- C Tamil +965 6596 2559
- C English +91 95255 95265
- Other Languages +91 99628 34944

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

GODependence Youtube Channel

GODependence
Youtube Channel
has reached 199
Subscribers and 65
Videos.





The Scripture is both the breeder and feeder of grace. How is the convert born, but by "the Word of truth"? How doth he grow, but by "the sincere milk of the Word"?



(9) +965 6596 2559



. P. SUBILA

J. V. JERISHA

S. MOHANRAJ

Certificate will be send to them in due time

Congratulations!

+965 6596 2559

Certificate will be send to them in due time

♠ GOD ependence

■ GOD ependence

■

3.R. Padmavathi

4. Shunmugiah M

?X **@©@ ©GOD**ependence

5. SHANTHI JEMILA RAJA

Congratulations!

Prize & Certificate will be send to them in due time

GODependence

+965 6596 2559

Testimony, Sis. Jeba Selvi ★★★★★

Praise be to God. My name is Jeba Selvi. I live in Thiru. V. Ka Nagar. First of all, I would like to thank my God. Thank you to everyone who works at GODependence Group. I belong to a Christian family and my husband belongs to a Hindu family. My husband's family has taken baptism and goes to church. I have tried to read the Bible many times. But I could not. I have read the Bible 5 times through GODependence Group and I am going to finish it for the 6th time by this December 2025. I thank God and GODependence Group for their support.

Whenever there are unknown verses or words in the Bible, I will inform them through text messages and they will explain them to me. I praise God for that. I would like to share a testimony with you. I can only sit and read for a short time. I read while lying down. My spinal cord has bulging. The doctor told me I need to have surgery by March 2024 or I will lose my right arm and leg. I started praying with the verses in the Bible. The prayer was answered and now I sit and read the Bible. I do my work. We go to village service as a family and read the Bible. I have the strength to do everything through the strengthening Christ. The God of promise has strengthened me, so let us all study the Bible and receive God's blessings. I express my heartfelt gratitude to GODependence Group.

Testimony, Sis. Gifta Arumainayagam. 🙀



Praise the Lord 🙏

Gifta Arumainayagam. Trichy. My family is Christian. Since childhood, we were accustomed to reading the Bible and memorising the verses. So far, I have read the entire Bible 17 times. I am 70 years old. I have read it 12 times through the GODependence Bible reading challenge. Praise be to God. Through reading the Bible, my life has become closer to the Lord and my family has been blessed. Even in times of illness and tiredness, by the grace of God, I finished reading the Bible at the right time. Through GODependence, it was easy to complete the Bible reading schedule without interruption.

Reading the Bible is a daily essential food for everyone who believes in Jesus Christ. It makes the spirit, soul, body and mind abide in Christ.

Thank you to GODependence ministry for giving me this Bible reading.

Testimony, Sis. M.John Flora ★★★★★

PRAISE THE LORD

Respected GODependence Brothers and Sisters, my thanks and greetings.

My name is: M. John Flora. With the encouragement given by this GODependence ministries and the great grace of the Lord, I have read the Bible 9 times starting from 2023. We plan to complete many tasks according to the world in a year and we complete them. Similarly, a pastor asked me why you should not choose the Bible study, which was the reason why I went straight to the Lord, kept the Lord before my eyes, and participated in this Bible reading program. It helped me to continue reading. The Lord is the bridegroom, and we are the bride. This bridegroom and bride relationship is the most perfect and noble relationship in the world.

The motto that 'love needs to be known and it can only be obtained through the Bible' motivates me to read the Bible more. So I continue to read the Bible. I pray that the Lord will be with me and all of you and guide us.

Thank you. With love, M. John Flora.

Testimony, Sis. Isbella



- Isbella, Baranji. Early Christians.
- Once I read Bible through the GODependence Bible BRC
- We have a shop and I could not read the Bible, but I set aside time for God every day and successfully finished reading it.
- If the Bible is given in order, it will be pleasant to read. It was difficult to understand the different books in the Bible because I read them alternately. It will be interesting to read the books continuously.
- When I read the Bible, it is as if God is talking to me. I want everyone, from young children to old people, to read the Bible to understand it and follow it.
- Glory be to Jesus alone, Amen.

Bible Book Overview

2 Thessalonians

2 Thessalonians

Time Written: A.D. 51-A.D. 52

Time Events Took Place: A.D. 51-A.D. 52

Author of the Book: Apostle Paul

Book Genre: Epistles

Book Introduction

 The First Epistle to the Thessalonians created many doubts, especially concerning the second coming of Jesus Christ. In this context, Paul wrote this second letter.

Context and Purpose

• In the church at Thessalonica, some wrong ideas about the "Day of The book of 2 Thessalonians teaches several important lessons for the Lord" still existed. Some believed that the Day had already arrived, so they stopped working. They were also facing severe persecution. Paul wrote this epistle to correct their misunderstandings and to comfort them. Since the First Epistle mentioned Christ's coming six times and implied that it would happen soon, some believed the final coming had already taken place, while others assumed it was very near and became idle. To correct these misconceptions, Paul wrote the Second Epistle to the Thessalonians. This letter was written sometime between A.D. 52 and A.D. 100.

Key Verses

2 Thessalonians 1:6-7, 2 Thessalonians 2:13, 2 Thessalonians 3:3,

2 Thessalonians 3:10

Summary of the Book

· Paul greets the church in Thessalonica and encourages them. He praises them for what he has heard about their faith and conduct in the Lord. He also prays for them (2 Thess. 1:11-12). In chapter 2, Paul explains what will take place on the Day of the Lord (2 Thess. 2:1-12). He urges them to stand firm and instructs them to stay away from idle people who do not live according to the gospel (2 Thess. 3:6). To correct their belief that the final coming had already occurred, Paul explains that before the Lord's return, there will be a rebellion and the "man of lawlessness" will appear-one who opposes Christ. Because of the expectation of Christ's return, many in Thessalonica stopped working and became idle. The author instructs them to remain steadfast and to practice what they have learned. Paul commands that those who live in idleness must work if they wish to eat.

Jesus Christ in the Book

 The book of 2 Thessalonians strongly connects to Jesus Christ by presenting Him as the glorious King who will return to judge the world and reward His faithful followers. Paul highlights Jesus as the righteous Judge who brings justice to those who reject God and as the faithful Lord who protects believers from the evil one. Jesus is shown as the ultimate victor who will destroy the "man of lawlessness" with

the breath of His mouth, proving His supreme authority over all evil. He is also the one who strengthens, comforts, and encourages His people, becoming the foundation of the gospel message that believers must stand firm in. Throughout the letter, Jesus remains the central focus of hope, faith, and future expectation.

Application

Christian living today. It encourages believers to remain steady in their faith, holding tightly to sound doctrine, especially when false teachings or confusion arise about the end times. Paul warns Christians not to be deceived by rumors or misleading prophecies but to remain spiritually alert. The letter also stresses the importance of hard work and responsibility, reminding believers that idleness leads to disorder, and "if anyone is not willing to work, he shall not eat." Practically, the message is to live a disciplined life, pray continually, trust in God's faithfulness, and carry out one's duties with diligence while confidently awaiting the return of Christ.

Book Outline

- 1. Introduction 1:1-2
- 2. Thanksgiving and Praise 1:3-12
- 3. Instruction About Christ's Coming 2:1-17
- Exhortations for Christian Living 3:1–15
- 5. Conclusion (Final Greetings) 3:16-18



International Day of Bible Reading Suggested Activities

The following are the suggested activities for International Day of Bible Reading on 16 December based on the experience we had last year:

As an individual, how shall I participate in the International Day of Bible Reading?

- Spend some time to read the scriptures, meditate, take notes from it for your personal life, and spend time devoting yourself to it on December 16.
- One can meditate on a particular verse or portion of the Bible.
- Take a photo or selfie while you read and meditate on the Bible and share it on your WhatsApp Status, Facebook, Instagram, etc.
- You can also share the captured video of the recitation of memorized verses on your social networking sites.
- You can present the Holy Bible to someone in need in the circle of friends.
- While sharing above photos, pictures, or videos in the social media sites, use (#)
 hashtags #InternationalDayofBibleReading and #IDBR2024. It will ensure the
 "International Day of Bible Reading" reaches more people.
- It will also let all people in your circle of friends know the details of the International Day of Bible Reading.

What could we do as a family, a church, or a group to observe International Day of Bible Reading On December 16?

- Come together as a group to a place and take turns to read a specific passage or books of the Bible.
- Organize events or competitions to recite memorized verses.
- Conduct Bible quiz competitions.
- Organizing Seminars on the Holy Bible, its history, background, greatness, its impact on individuals and society.

International Day of Bible Reading Suggested Activities

- One or more of the above events can be conducted as an In-Person or Online event.
- In-Person events can be shared in the photo or video format on your personal,
 Church, and community groups' social media pages.
- When sharing the In-Person and the Online events on social media pages, use
 (#) hashtags #InternationalDayofBibleReading and #IDBR2025. It will ensure the
 "International Day of Bible Reading" reaches more people.

What are we going to do on the International Day of Bible Reading on 16 December 2025/ IDBR Week (10-11 December 2025) as GODependence Team?

- To organise a Zoom meeting in all 10 languages of Bible Reading Challenge groups.
- GODependence Talk shows in all 10 languages on the history of that particular language Bible.
- To conduct Mega Bible Quiz online English & Tamil.
- To manage a temporary WhatsApp group in all 10 languages for WhatsApp users to share their IDBR social media posts.
- To share Birthday wishes with the hashtag of IDBR to those who are having Birthday on 16 December.
- To organise Bible Readathons in all 10 languages
- To give away Bibles to the needy people in all 10 languages of GODependence Bible Reading Challenges.

You can keep you connected with the exclusive pages of IDBR 2025

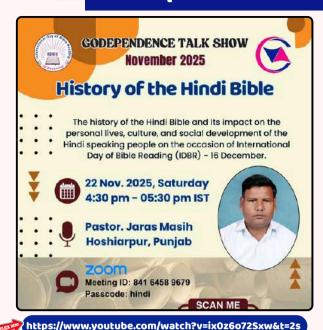
IDBR2025 Facebook Page: tinyurl.com/IDBR-Dec16-FB

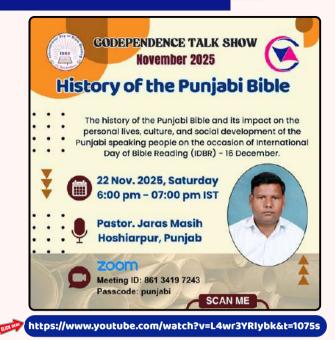
IDBR2025 Instagram: tinyurl.com/IDBR-Dec16-Insta

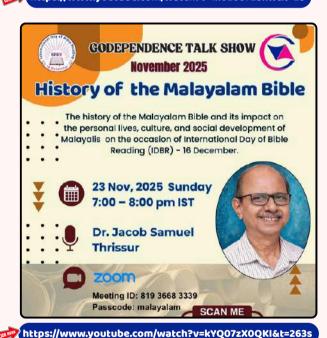
IDBR2025 YouTube: tinyurl.com/y8pn8ecr

XIDBR2025 X Page: tinyurl.com/3hmbydjs

GODependence Talk shows - IDBR 2025



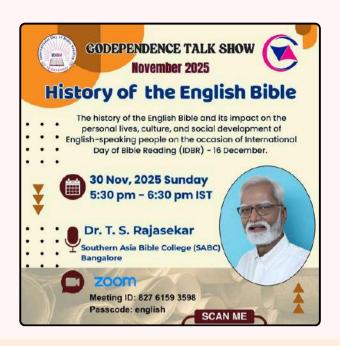


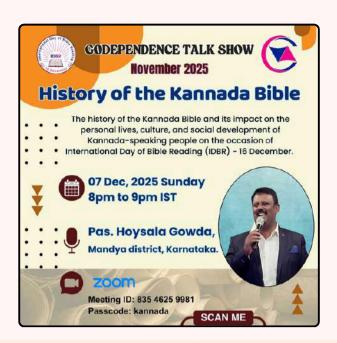












Children Bible Reading Challenge - CBRC

The videos of winners in the Bible Verses Recitation Competition of Children Bible Reading Challenges (CBRC0 - Term 1 are given here:































https://youtu.be/vNMtkxb1_CY https://youtu.be/g1zK6pJyn2c https://youtu.be/WZolk3VjSks

List of IDBR 2025 - Zoom Sessions















GODependence



On behalf of our **GODependence Team,** We wish you a Merry **Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

4.

LET'S PLAY BIBLE GAME - 14

From the given pictures find the verses from 2 Thessalonians



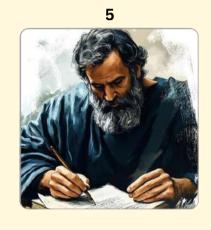
Notes: Send the answers with Bible references. You can use the Bible (NKJV) to find the answer.









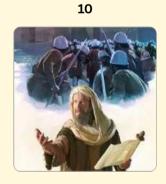














https://forms.gle/xwry5zECEy8ixAKZA

Click on the given link and send the correct answer before 25/12/2025.

The first 10 persons who send the correct answer will be mentioned in the next month's newsletter.

The Bible speaks with power and practicality to everything you are facing, thinking, and feeling. The God who seems so distant to you at this moment is actually near and active. - Paul David Tripp

GODependence Events

IDBR 2025 - Bible Readathons

Marathi: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-62a6fLol-E&t=536s

Hindi: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FrX9XkltslY

Malayalam: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Fn1jl3SiE4

Bengali: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wXPHV6ffX7s

Tamil: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P_Te7WqPF8M

English: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e94-rQtZCro



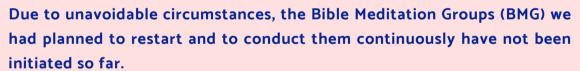
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IDBR 2025 Activities - November / December 2025



GODependence Talkshows on the history of the Bible have been conducted in 8 languages, Bible Readathons in 6 languages, and Zoom gatherings in 7 languages, with many other events continuing in sequence.

Bible Meditation Groups (BMG) - Training Sessions



Training sessions on "How to Medidate the Word of God" which was planned to be conducted in the month of November 2025 also could not be done as our Team is occupied with arranging IDBR activities.

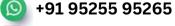
Kindly keep this in your prayers as we intend to initiate them in 2026.







▼GODependence Bible Reading Challenges









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CONTACT: GODependence 105 Y/1A, Nalla Samarian Nagar, Vallioor - 627 117,

Tamilnadu, India