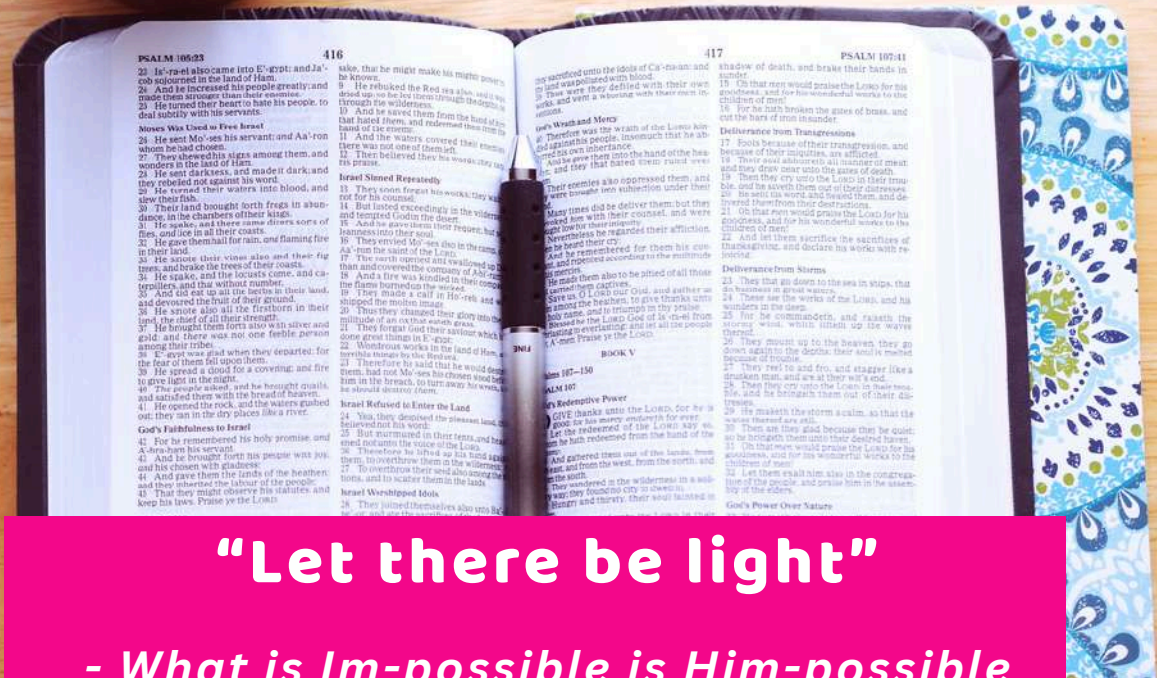


January | 2026

2026

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2026



If someone asks you, "What is your definition of darkness?" you may remember the dark and difficult times when you lost your dear ones, or the times you struck with no clue and no hope for your future, or the diseases or unpleasant incidents that happened in your life. Lastly, you may remember that during dark times, we cannot see things clearly. Yes, the standard definition for darkness is the absence of light.

In Genesis 1:3, we read "Then God said, "Let there be light", and there was light." This is the first record of God speaking in the Bible. This is the spoken Word God when "the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep." Here we see the immediate response to God's command.

The more we read God's truths and let truth fill our minds, the less time we'll spend contemplating untruths and toxic thoughts. - Lysa TerKeurst

God's creation obeys his command without any delay. We are not told how, when, and why the earth became formless and empty. There was darkness everywhere. Here, pay attention to what the Bible says: "the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters." In other words, the darkness was still under the control of the Spirit of God. Though God is not the reason for any darkness, no darkness can escape from his rule.

Even today, we see that the world is still in the illusion of darkness, caused by the devil. Are you concerned about the darkness in your or anyone's life? Remember: the darkness is not the end of the story. When we allow God's word to permeate the darkness, then we will see His light. There will be no more darkness.

The God who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness", has enlightened our hearts with the light of Christ to preach and proclaim the Gospel. We are called to walk in the light of God. Jesus says, "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden."

Shall we all say, "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path" (Ps. 119:105). In 2026, let us be determined to walk in the light of God.

- Arputharaj Samuel, Bangalore.

Editorial Team

- Pethuru Devadason
- Arputharaj Samuel
- J.I.A. Easter Raj
- Peter A R
- D. Densingh
- Darwin Nesakumar A
- Shoba Daniel
- Josephine Shiny Paul
- Catherine Suji

A true love for the great book will bring us great peace from the great God and be a great protection to us. - Charles Spurgeon



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On behalf of the GODependence team, I extend my loving New Year greetings to all of you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I thank God for granting us this opportunity to see this New Year and to reconnect with you once again through this newsletter.

I wish that this New Year will be a fruitful year for each one of us. As we carefully observe the situations unfolding across the nations, we come to realise that our lives, health, and strength today are sustained solely by God's sovereign grace. We can understand this truth through the parable spoken by Jesus in Luke 13:6-9.

Time (vv. 6-7): In this parable, the owner of the vineyard comes seeking fruit from the fig tree he had planted for three years, but finds none. Therefore, he decides to cut it down. But the keeper of the vineyard pleads, "Sir, let it alone this year also...". God, who created us in this world for a purpose, has every right and justification to decide that our lives are no longer necessary if, upon review, He finds no fulfillment of that purpose in us. Yet, just as the keeper of the vineyard interceded, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit intercede on our behalf, and by the grace of the Triune God, this year too has been graciously granted to us.

As we enter this New Year, we must understand this truth. This year must not become just another ordinary year for us. We have no right to presume that we will live through it because of our age or physical strength, our lives continue purely by God's grace. The God who has graciously extended our time has also extended His expectation and the opportunity to fulfil it—and He is fully able to bring it to accomplish it.

Care (v. 8): The keeper of the vineyard does not merely ask for an extension of one year for the fig tree. He says, "I dig around it and fertilise it." Digging and fertilising are uncomfortable for both the gardener and the tree, yet they are essential for growth and fruitfulness. Likewise, to remove the hidden sins, wrong priorities, and spiritual negligence within us, God may sometimes need to dig around us, and at other times, apply fertiliser. We must fully submit ourselves to this divine process.

Through His Word, our prayer life, and fellowship with believers, God nourishes us. This New Year, we must allow God to do a deep work in our hearts. If that does not happen, this year too will simply pass by as another routine year, leaving our future uncertain. Therefore, let us dedicate ourselves to God's hands this year and allow true growth and transformation to take place in our lives.

Fruit (v. 9): God has graciously given us an additional year because He expects fruit from us. The extension of our lives is not merely due to His patience or grace alone, but because He hopes that at least this year we will bear fruit in our spiritual lives. He expects from us the fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control—and a life obedient to Him, reflecting His character, serving others through His love, and bearing witness by leading others to Him.

As the days, weeks, and months of this year pass by, it is essential that we regularly examine ourselves to see what fruit is being produced in us. God is not pleased merely with our activities, He desires fruit in our spiritual lives. A fruitful life glorifies God and becomes a blessing to others.

May this New Year become a year in which we allow God to dig and fertilize us through His Word and prayer life, experience transformation, and bear fruit for Him.

Let us thank God for His abundant grace in blessing all the events related to International Day of Bible Reading (IDBR 2025) held on last month. GODependence seminars on the history of the Bible were conducted in 8 languages, Bible Readathon programs were held in 6 languages, and International Day of Bible Reading Zoom gatherings took place in 7 languages.

On Sunday, December 21, 2025, God graciously enabled the GODependence team to review our ministry activities for the year 2025 and prayerfully plan for the year 2026. As many people are joining the 2026 New Year Bible

Reading Challenges, we also planned ways to address the challenges we face as a Team and to serve the Lord even more effectively in 2026.

When launching the January 2026 Bible Reading Challenges, our all 3 numbers once again faced WhatsApp spam-related issues. Nevertheless, God enabled nearly 2,400 participants to join the new challenges.

We are determined to conduct the monthly GODependence Talkshows without interruption this year. We are also planning to organize a Bible Readathon every month. Please pray that Bible Meditation Groups will be restarted this year and that the preparatory work for them will be carried out swiftly. Continue to pray for us as we implement special challenges such as the Ramadan Bible Reading and Lent Bible Reading this year as well.

Please also pray for our newsletter editorial team, that our newsletters may be released without interruption every month at the beginning of the month and be beneficial to many. Continue to pray for the GODependence ministries and introduce these ministries to others.

May the name of the Lord be glorified.


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




Praise & Prayer points for Newsletter


January 2026

Praise God For:

- 1. The ways in which the Lord protected and guided us throughout the year 2025, and for His grace that sustained us in our personal lives, families, workplaces, and ministries.
- 2. The Lord's help in observing "International Day of Bible Reading (IDBR 2025)" in a meaningful way on December 16, and for everyone who contributed to and benefited from the events organized in connection with it, such as the Mega Online Quiz, Children's Quiz, Bible Readathons, GODependence Talk Shows, and IDBR Zoom Meetings.
- 3. God's help in enabling the GODependence Team to gather on December 21 to review the ministries carried out in 2025 and to plan the ministries for the year 2026.
- 4. Each and every person who successfully completed their Bible reading during the year 2025.
- 5. The Lord's grace in initiating the January 2026 Bible Reading Challenge groups in 10 languages, overcoming many obstacles. 

Let's Pray For:

- 1. The 2,400 participants who have joined the January 2026 Bible Reading Challenge groups, that those who have committed themselves to reading the entire Bible in 2026—through Bible reading plans of varying durations—will successfully complete their respective challenges.
- 2. Everyone to grow closer to God through Bible reading and prayer, and receive fresh grace in the New Year.
- 3. All the 3 GODependence numbers used to send Bible reading portions will not be frequently restricted due to spam-related issues.
- 4. The Lord to grant wisdom to every member of the GODependence team to effectively carry out the plans made for the year 2026.
- 5. God to grant the necessary grace to the GODependence team to carry out the preparations so that the International Day of Bible Reading (IDBR 2026) events may be observed across many nations and in multiple languages around the world in the year 2026. 

6. Giving in to fear alters God's best plan for your life. So use the power of God's Word to do what He wants you to do... even if you have to do it afraid! The rewards 

are great. - Joyce Meyer

The Slogans of Protestant Reformation



Slogan 2 : “Faith alone!” (Sola Fide)

The Scripture text that ignited the mind of Martin Luther was Romans 1:16,17, “The Gospel of Christ is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes ... For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith, as it is written, THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.” This is not an isolated or obscure text from the Bible. This appears in 4 places: Habakkuk 2:4, Galatians 3:11, Romans 1:17, Hebrews 10:38. The message is that we are NOT saved by any works of religion but only by faith on Christ. Apostle Paul emphasizes it in Ephesians 2:8,9, “By grace you have been saved through faith, and that NOT of yourselves, it is the gift of God, NOT of works, lest anyone should boast.” Not of “yourselves” – our personality. Not of “works” – our performance.

Here lies the fundamental difference between the Old Testament and the New. The OT says, “It will be righteousness for us, if we are careful to OBSERVE all these commandments before the Lord our God, as He has commanded us” (Deuteronomy 6:25). On the other hand the NT declares, “But now the righteousness of God APART FROM THE LAW is revealed, even the righteousness of God which is through faith in Jesus Christ to all and on all who believe” (Romans 3:21,22).

Apostle Paul reiterates this truth in his Epistle to Galatians who were disturbed by the advocates of circumcision: “A man is NOT justified by the WORKS of the law BUT by faith in Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus,

that we might be justified by faith in Christ and NOT by the WORKS of the Law, because by the works of the Law no flesh shall be justified” (Galatians 2:16). You will be thrilled to observe the repeated mention of the word “faith” in this Epistle (Galatians 2:20, 3:2,5,6,7,8,9,11,12,14, 22,23,23,25, etc.).

Abraham was justified by faith 430 years BEFORE the Law was given (Galatians 3:17). The Law was a later addition and that too for a stipulated period only: “The Law was added till the Seed (Christ) should come” (v19). Also, Abraham was justified “NOT while circumcised, but while uncircumcised” (Rom 4:9,10). Yes, Abraham was justified by faith, and not by Circumcision or the Law. What does this teach us today? Water baptism, infant or adult, sprinkling or immersion, does not save us. You become a child of God the moment you personally believe on the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour (John 1:12, Romans 10:9-11). Then follows baptism as the first step of obedience (Acts 8:36-38, 10:47,48, 16:30-33).

The one and only condition for salvation is faith on Christ. Here are two classic examples: (1) Evangelist Philip preached Jesus to the Ethiopian official in the Gaza desert. On seeing some water, the official asked Philip, “See, here is water, what hinders me from being baptized?” (Acts 8:35,36). Note carefully the instant answer: “If you believe with all your heart, you may” (v37). (2) The Philippian Jailor asked Paul and Silas, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” The instant answer was, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your family” (Acts 16:30,31). He believed on Christ with his family and they were all baptized “the same hour of the night” (v33). In both these instances the inquirer was not prescribed seven steps to salvation! By climbing seven steps you will not be saved, you will only become tired!

Beware of “discipleship” salvation. It teaches that you must reach a certain level of spirituality in order to be baptized. The word “disciple” simply means “student.” Whether in kindergarten or postgraduate class, you are a student. It is AFTER enrolling as a student, you grow in knowledge. Similarly the moment you wholeheartedly believe on Jesus you are enrolled as a disciple (Matthew 28:19). Then follows growth through regular teaching (v20). It is not by self-efforts like “ascending” or “descending” that we get saved, but only by mouth confession and heart belief (Romans 10:4- 10). (Read my 128-page book, Faith Life, available in English and Tamil.) A Church planting missionary organisation in India lost a tribal group when its missionaries insisted that the tribeswomen must break their bangles before baptism. Oh, how much we have failed to understand the New Testament truths! (Acts 15:28,29).

-It will be continued...

(Selected from Bro. R. Stanley’s book “Here I Stand”)

Our Vision & Our Mission

Our Vision

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



Our Mission

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

How great and glorious it is to have the Word of God! - Martin Luther

Bible Reading Challenges

From 01 February 2026 onwards

**"You are my refuge and my shield; I have put my hope in your word." -
Psalm 119:11**

Did you start reading the Bible in January 2026 as part of your New Year resolutions?
Have you been able to stay on track?

If you need help staying consistent, GODependence invites you to join one of our Bible Reading Challenges, beginning on 01 February 2026.

GODependence
True freedom is being dependent on God

BIBLE READING CHALLENGES



**YOU ARE MY REFUGE AND MY SHIELD;
I HAVE PUT MY HOPE IN YOUR WORD.**

- PSALM 119:114

01 February 2026 onwards

- ✓ **Join one of our Bible reading plans**
- ✓ **Start reading at your own convenience**
- ✓ **Scan the QR code to Join**

For more information:  **GODependence**
+91 95255 95265



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

www.godependence.com/brc

The Bible is the one Book to which any thoughtful man may go with any honest question of life or destiny and find the answer of God by honest searching. - John

Ruskin

Bible Reading Challenges

From 01 February 2026 onwards

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

👤♂ “By the abundant grace of the Lord, in the past seven years since I bought a Bible, I had never read it completely even once. But to the glory of God, through the guidance of the GODependence Bible Reading Challenge, I have completed reading the entire Bible for the first time, within four months. All praise, honor, and glory be to the Lord alone.” – Thirunavukkarasu R.

👤♂ “It was a good experience. My wife and I had a friendly competition in reading the daily portions. We enjoyed reading the Bible every day and answering the quiz.” – Bashkaran T.

👤♀ “Reading the Bible in one year has become very easy and useful without any difficulty. The fortnightly reviews and the weekly quizzes are a great support in helping us maintain consistency in Bible reading. With a strong desire to say that I have completed 100% of the reading, my heart is eager to finish any missed portions, at least over the weekends.” – J. Jasmine Beula Margaret

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 February 2026 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.

Creative thinking encompassed by the Word of God infuses into you the divine ability to turn the seemingly ugly situation around. - Jaachynma N.E. Agu

Bible Reading Challenges

From 01 February 2026 onwards

- ✦ 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 +919525595265 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! ”

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

Every day
7 or 8 chapters

Reading time

25 minutes

1 YEAR READING CHALLENGE

Every day
3 or 4 chapters

Reading time

15 minutes

Why delay? Join today!

Contact:  **+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.*

GODependence Bible Reading Challenges



Bible Reading Challenges

Salient features of GODependence Bible Reading Challenges

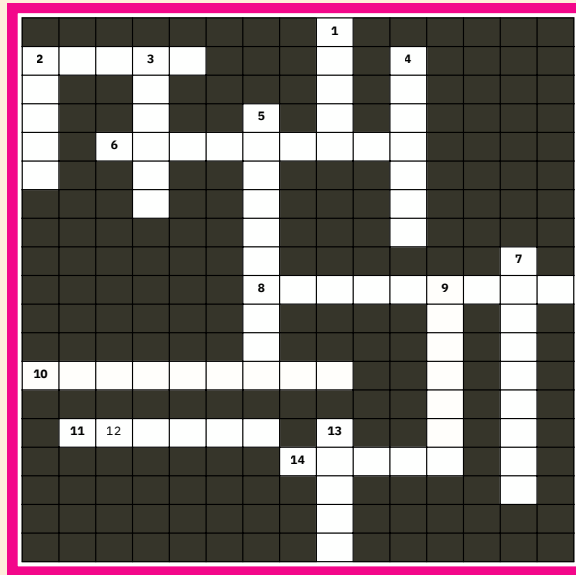
1. Your choice of duration ranges from 1 Month to 1 Year. [Reading the whole Bible in 1 month / 2 months/ 3 months/ 4 months / 6 months or 1 Year].
2. Choice of Language - 10 Languages (English, Tamil, Hindi, Malayalam, Kannada, Telugu, Odia, Punjabi, Marathi and Bengali).
3. The Bible Reading portion 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>

Bible Crossword Puzzle-15

Scripture Portion: 1 Timothy



Across:

- 2 Deacons must hold the mystery of the ---
 6 Some have wandered away because of false ---
 8 Guard what has been --- to you
 10 Women should dress with modesty and ---
 11 Respect must be given to ---
 14 Elders who rule well are worthy of double ---

Down

- 1 God desires all to be ---
 2 Fight the good --- of faith
 3 Command and teach these ---
 4 Love of this is a root of all kinds of evil
 5 A bishop must be --- above reproach
 7 There is one --- between God and men
 9 God our ---
 12 Paul calls this the goal of instruction
 13 Train yourself to be



Notes : Send the answers with Bible references.

You can use the Bible to find the answer.



<https://forms.gle/VHwTKPemHctKLhsSA>

Click on the given link and send the correct answer before 25/01/2026
 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 - 14 & LET'S PLAY BIBLE GAME - 15 in last month's issue and sent in the correct answers.

Kishan Jaiswal

Throughout the History, many of the major revival movements came as people turned back to the Bible, allowing it to challenge them to hear God's message afresh in their generation. - Craig Keener

A Playwright - Turned - Missionary

Biography of Adoniram Judson

(1788-1850)

It was a little congregation of children in a parsonage singing, "Go preach My Gospel, saith the Lord." Was it a Sunday School Class or some children's meeting? Neither! For very soon a four year old boy mounted a chair and preached to the group with great solemnity. These children were playing church and Adoniram Judson, the son of the minister, was the preacher.

Early Life

Adoniram Judson was born on August 9, 1788. At an early age he seemed to possess unusual ability.

A Brilliant Student

Even at the age of three he had learned to read, and his father was surprised one day to hear him read a whole chapter from the Bible. He was very fond of solving mathematical problems. At the age of 10 he was a brilliant mathematician and was studying Latin and Greek, besides some deep theology books. He was noted for his ability in Greek.

At 16 he entered Brown University and graduated at 19 as the first scholar in his class. During his college days he had a close friend who was also able and talented, but was an unbeliever.

That young man did not believe in miracles or in the Bible. Influenced by him, Adoniram also became an unbeliever saying that God could not be known personally. This grieved his parents very much. Moreover, after graduation his ambition was to become a famous, lawyer or a playwright. He had joined a theatrical party in New York.

Finding God

However, young Adoniram was restless and there seemed to be no definite purpose in life. Life in the theatrical party could not satisfy him. He went through the misery of a man without Christ. One night at a country inn where he was staying, a man was at the point of death lying in the next room. Throughout the night Adoniram was awake listening to the groans of the dying man.

The more we know the Scripture the more we shall find that it deals with our modern and contemporary problems. - **Martin Llyod Jones**

The next morning he was shocked to find out that the man was his infidel friend from Brown University. He realized that his friend was not prepared to die and this realization made him desperate. Six weeks later the restless Adoniram found rest and peace of heart by accepting Christ as his personal Saviour.

God's Call

After the transformation that had come over his life, his one ambition was to please God. Everywhere in his room there were mottoes asking, "Is it pleasing to God?" His other ambitions were gone and he wanted to do that which would please God in his future life. A book which he had read turned his thoughts in the direction of missionary work. Christ's command "Go ye into all the world" which he had sung as a hymn in his childhood began to grip him, and his ambition now was to be a foreign missionary. But how could he go? There was no missionary society in America which could send him. Adoniram prayed. There were four other young men who shared his missionary convictions and all the five of them began to pray.

God answered their prayer. In 1810 the American Board of Missions was formed and Judson was sent to London to see if the London Missionary Society would send and support American missionaries. France was at war with Britain at that time. So Judson's ship was captured and he was thrown into a filthy cell as a prisoner. He was discouraged that he did not know French to tell his captors about Christ. One day an unknown American came into the prison and hiding Judson under a military cloak walked out with him. Arriving in England, he found out that the London Board did not favor his proposals. However, he was happy to find that the American Board decided to support him.

In a Strange land

In 1812 Adoniram Judson married Ann Hasseltine and almost immediately sailed for India for missionary work. However, God's plans for him pointed to another country. The East India Company which was in power in India in those days did not favor missionary work in India. So when the Judsons arrived after four months of sea voyage, they were immediately ordered back to America. Surely that must have been discouraging. Hadn't God called them out as missionaries? So they decided to stay. However, they were compelled to sail from one place to another until at last they landed in Rangoon, Burma. Thus God's choice for them turned out to be Burma.

As I read each letter in that Book of God, I worship the eternal mind which inspired it.

— Charles Spurgeon

Burma at that time

Burma in those days was ruled by a king who had absolute power. The people were slaves to him. He was very hostile to missionaries. The religion of Burma was Buddhism and it was well organized. There were no Christians in Burma. No one had ever heard much about Christ. Without Christ in their hearts the people walked about with sad faces and burdened hearts. Judson and his wife often looked at the people and felt sad. They worked hard studying the language so that they might tell the people about Christ. After a year and a half, Ann had to go to Madras (India) for medical help and Adoniram continued his language study alone. Very soon a baby boy was born to them. But after eight months, much to their sorrow, they lost this child.

Toiling

Adoniram believed that if the Burmese had the Word of God in their language, many of them might find salvation. So he spent 14 hours a day studying the language and translating the Bible. With a hand press he printed tracts and portions of the Bible. A new missionary, Mr. Hough, arrived with his wife and he was a printer. Very soon the Gospel of Mathew was being printed. After two years of toiling, one day an enquirer came to Judson and asked for more Christian literature. Only five pages of Mathew's Gospel were ready and Judson handed him those.

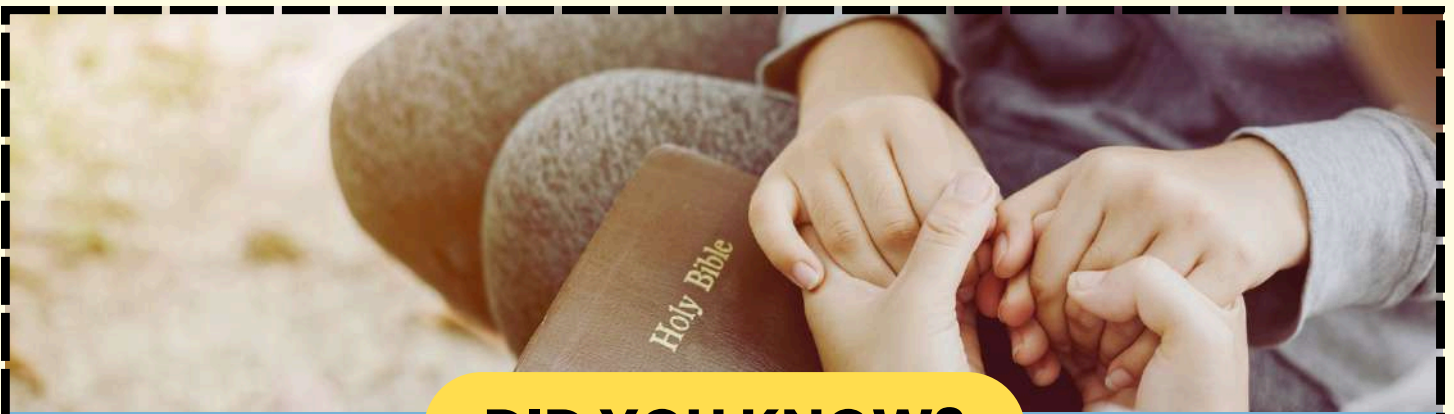
Judson erected a public meeting place and preached to the people in Burmese. At night he spent long hours in praying for the people. There were many, including some priests, who showed interest. Six years after Judson arrived in Burma, Moungh Nau the first convert came forward and asked for baptism. Though this might have meant persecution and death, he bravely made the decision. Gradually others accepted Christ and there were 18 loyal Christians in Rangoon. At that time Ann was stricken with fever and was sent to America. Judson carried on his teaching and translating and finally finished the New Testament. A new emperor came to power and Judson made a trip to his palace to obtain permission to carry on the work.

--To be continue--

[From "Servants of the Cross" by Theodore Williams, IEM 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.

- Tom Allen



DID YOU KNOW?

The Bible Provides the Cure for Guilt

The Bible offers a definitive way to overcome guilt. It declares:

"But he (Jesus Christ) was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed." (Isaiah 53:5, Bible).

- **If you believe that Jesus Christ died to pay the penalty for your sins, rose again on the third day, and accept Him as your Savior and Lord, your sins will be forgiven. Through this act of faith, you will become a child of God and experience the peace and freedom that come from His grace.**

The Bible is filled with unique promises for those who trust in Him.

Read the Bible to discover the transformative power of God's love and forgiveness.



Did you know?

Did you know the word "Christian" appears only three times in the entire Bible (Acts 11:26, 26:28, 1 Peter 4:16)?



Did you know?

Did you know that a prophet lost his life because he disobeyed God by eating with someone he was told not to?

(1 Kings 13:20-24 – the story of the "man of God" and the old prophet)



International Day of Bible Reading (IDBR) – 2025

Praise God for the International Day of Bible Reading (IDBR) 2025 observed on 16 December 2025. The theme for this year was **“Read the Bible; Renew Your Life.”** This theme guided all the IDBR activities, inspiring believers to engage deeply with the Scriptures, grow in faith and experience spiritual renewal.

During the IDBR 2025 activities, participants from across India and beyond joined the Bible Readathon in 6 languages, Talk shows on the History of the Bible in 8 languages, the Online Mega Bible Quiz in English, Tamil, and Hindi and the Zoom gatherings in 7 languages. These activities encouraged reflection, discussion, and exploration of the Scriptures.

Through these activities, participants not only read the Bible but also experienced transformation in their lives, embodying the theme: “Read the Bible – let truth ignite your soul, Renew Your Life – be transformed and made whole.”

By the grace of the Lord, we were able to conduct the **Bible Readathon** in six languages as part of the International Day of Bible Reading observances. The purpose of this event was to promote Bible reading, strengthen faith, unite believers, support evangelism, and inspire spiritual renewal. The Readathon was conducted using Streamyard software and was live-streamed on the GODependence YouTube and Facebook channels.

Bible Readathon Timeline			
Date	Time	Language	Portion
02.10.2025	12 hours	Tamil	Luke 18 – Colossians 4
14.12.2025	Almost 6 hours	Tamil	1 Thes. 1 – Revelation 22
16.11.2025	3 hours and 45 minutes	Tamil	Proverbs 1 – 31
05.12.2025	4 hours and 30 minutes	Marathi	Matthew 1 – Mark 8
07.12.2025	4 hours and 30 minutes	Hindi	Matthew 1 – Mark 8
09.12.2025	4 hours	Malayalam	Matthew 1 – Mark 16
13.12.2025	Almost 4 hours	Bengali	Matthew 1 – 28
14.12.2025	8 hours	English	John 4 – 2 Corinthians 13

- It is my wish that they should teach every poor child in my dominion to read the Bible. - King George-III

The Bible Readathon provided both participants and listeners with a fresh perspective on the Word of God, fostering deeper understanding and appreciation of the Scriptures.

In 2024, the Bible Readathon was conducted in English and Tamil only. By the immense grace of God, in 2025, the Readathon expanded to include Malayalam, Hindi, Marathi, and Bengali, in addition to English and Tamil, enabling participation from a wider and more diverse audience.

IDBR Talk shows			
Date	Language	Title	Speaker's name
22.11.2025	Hindi	History of the Hindi Bible	Pr. Jaras Masih Hoshiarpur, Punjab
22.11.2025	Punjabi	History of the Punjabi Bible	Pr. Jaras Masih Hoshiarpur, Punjab
23.11.2025	Malayalam	History of the Malayalam Bible	Dr. Jacob Samuel Thrissur
26.11.2025	Marathi	History of the Marathi Bible	Dr. Amit Jayantkumar Tribhuvan, Pune
28.11.2025	Bengali	History of the Bengali Bible	Pr. Danis Chakrabarty Bangladesh
30.11.2025	English	History of the English Bible	Dr. T.S. Raja Sekhar Southern Asia Bible College, Bangalore
30.11.2025	Tamil	History of the Tamil Bible	Dr. T.S. Raja Sekhar Southern Asia Bible College, Bangalore
07.12.2025	Kannada	History of the Kannada Bible	Pr. Hoysala Gowda Mandy District, Karnataka

As part of the IDBR 2025, an **Online Mega Bible Quiz** was organized and conducted in three languages, namely English, Tamil, and Hindi. The quiz comprised 25 questions from the New Testament. Participation was encouraging, with 177 participants in English, 803 in Tamil, and 21 in Hindi, bringing the total number of participants to 1,001.

All participants were appreciated with an E-certificate. They were also encouraged to share their E-certificates on their respective social media platforms as a means of celebrating the International Day of Bible Reading. Many participants gladly accepted this invitation and joyfully commemorated December 16 by sharing their certificates online.

The Online Mega Bible Quiz was organized and conducted by Dr. Darwin Nesa Kumar.

God willing, in the coming year, we plan to conduct this Online Mega Bible Quiz in additional languages as well.

In observance of the IDBR celebrations, **Bible Giveaway Programmes** were organized. By the grace of God, 100 Hindi New Testament Bibles were distributed to the needy in Bihar, India. Additionally, 50 Hindi New Testament Bibles and 150 Bengali New Testament Bibles were sent to West Bengal, India. Through Godependence Ministries, 20 Telugu Bibles and 25 Marathi Bibles were also distributed to those in need. We earnestly pray that all who receive these Bibles will diligently read the Holy Scriptures and come to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour.

As part of the IDBR celebrations, **Zoom gatherings** were organized in seven languages: English, Tamil, Malayalam, Bengali, Marathi, Telugu, and Hindi.

IDBR Zoom meetings			
Date	Language	Speaker's Name	Felicitator's Name
11.12.2025	Marathi	Rev. Simon Borde Breakthrough Fellowship Church, Pune	Rev. Ravi Damodar, Pune Bro. Samuel Alhat, Pune
12.12.2025	Telugu	Rev. Sreedhar Babu Gummadi, Hyderabad	Pr. Daniel Peter Hyderabad
14.12.2025	Hindi	Pr. Harmesh Masih CMF Bathel Church, Hoshiarpur, Punjab	Pr. Jaras Masih Hoshiarpur, Punjab
15.12.2025	Bengali	Rt. Rev. Dr. Augustine Sukumar ICM Church, Kolkata	Rev. Dr. James Sarkar Matthias Ministry Odisha, Cuttack
16.12.2025	English	Dr. Idicheria Ninan Chairman, ESAF Foundation	Bro. V. Samuel Baptist UESI-TN, Trichy Rev. M. G. Daniel - IEM, Delhi
16.12.2025	Malayalam	Dr. Idicheria Ninan Chairman, ESAF Foundation	Bro. Jose Chempanal, Thrissur Bro. Sujoy Jacob, Kochi
16.12.2025	Tamil	Dr. Ashok Kumar, Founder of CAMS India & Nepal	Bro. V. Samuel Baptist UESI-TN, Trichy

These gatherings provided believers across regions and languages an opportunity to hear God's Word, celebrate the significance of Bible reading, and participate in a unified observance of the International Bible Reading Day.

Within the Scripture there is a balm for every wound, a salve for every sore.

- Charles Spurgeon

During these sessions, a few participants who had been actively engaged in reading the Bible through the GODEpendence Bible Reading Challenge shared their testimonies regarding their reading experiences. Additionally, a Video presentation on Mary Jones was screened in the respective languages. Members of the GODEpendence Bible Reading Challenge groups, representing different languages, also participated in these Zoom gatherings.

All participants gained a deeper understanding of the importance of Bible reading and resolved to actively promote awareness of the International Day of Bible Reading among a wider audience.

Glory be to God!

- Bro. Densingh, Kuwait

Last month let's play Bible game-14 & Bible Crossword Puzzle -14

correct answers

Bible Crossword Puzzle - 14

Across:

- 5) Antichrist (2 Thess 2:4)
- 6) Disobedient (2 Thess 3:14)
- 7) Heart (2 Thess 3:13)
- 9) Retribution (2 Thess 1:6)
- 10) Grace (2 Thess 1:2)
- 11) Busybudies (2 Thess 3:11)
- 12) Restrainer (2 Thess 2:7)
- 13) Tribulation (2 Thess 1:6)

Down:

- 1) Silvanu (2 Thess 1:1)
- 2) Honored (2 Thess 3:1)
- 3) Teachings (2 Thess 2:15)
- 4) Encouragement (2 Thess 2:16)
- 8) Delusion (2 Thess 2:11)

let's play Bible game-14

- 1) 2 Thessalonians 1:8
- 2) 2 Thessalonians 1:4
- 3) 2 Thessalonians 2:17
- 4) 2 Thessalonians 2:8
- 5) 2 Thessalonians 2:14
- 6) 2 Thessalonians 3:17
- 7) 2 Thessalonians 3:13
- 8) 2 Thessalonians 4:15
- 9) 2 Thessalonians 3:2
- 10) 2 Thessalonians 3:5

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.

That is what truth does. - Anonymous

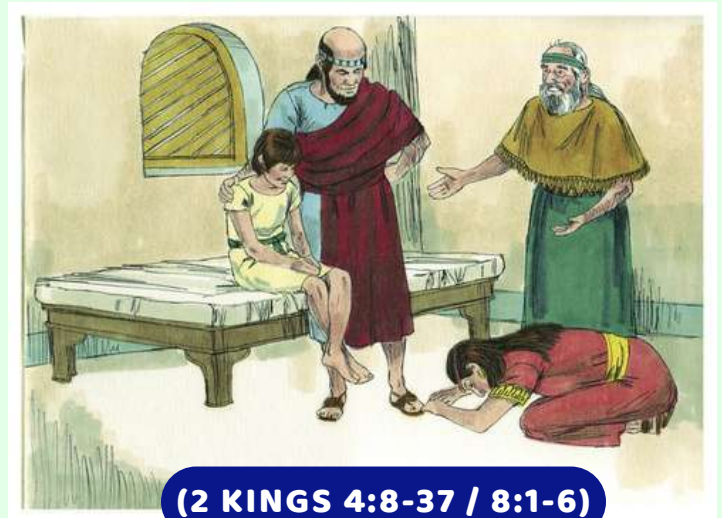
THE SHUNAMMITE WOMAN

Blessed by serving Elisha

When Elisha went to Shunem, a woman urged him to stay for a meal. She realised that Elisha was a holy man of God. So she persuaded her husband to make a room on the roof for him.

During a visit, Elisha inquired with her about what he could do for her. She did not make any requests. Elisha's servant Gehazi told him, "She has no son and her husband is old." Then Elisha told her, "About this time next year, you will have a son in your arms." Though she could not believe it, about that time next year, she gave birth to a son.

One day, her son suddenly died. She immediately went to Elisha. Then Elisha came to her house and brought him back to life. After some years, Elisha had told the Shunammite woman to go away with her family because there would be famine for seven years. After seven years,



(2 KINGS 4:8-37 / 8:1-6)

the woman returned and went to the king to beg for her house and land. At that time, Gehazi introduced the woman to the king. Then the king ordered that everything be given back to her.

Lessons:

- She honoured the man of God.
- God honoured her by giving her a son.
- Even when the son died, he was brought back to life.
- She was safeguarded from famine.
- Finally, she got her possessions restored.
- If you honour God, He will honour you. (1 Samuel 2:30).

– Bro. Peter A.R. Palakkad, Kerala.

Apply yourself wholly to the Scriptures, and apply the Scriptures wholly to yourself.

– Johann A. Bengel

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/0029VaCtY5W72WTq!gnZKW28>



Contact Numbers for the Bible Reading Challenges:

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

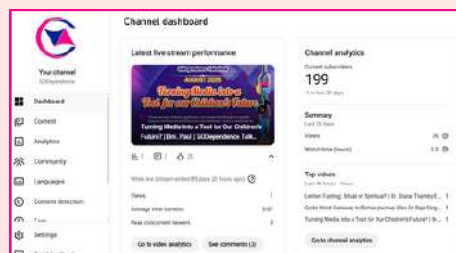
You can contact the appropriate number to enroll into a particular language Bible Reading Challenge groups.

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

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

GODependence Youtube Channel

GODependence
Youtube Channel
has reached 199
Subscribers and 65
Videos.



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



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"?

- Thomas Watson

GODependence Bible Reading Challenges

Congratulations to the Successful Participants as on 31 December 2025



GODependence Bible Reading Challenges



Congratulations to the Successful Participants as on 31 December 2025

1 Month Bible Reading Challenge

- M. Inbhanadhan
- Ma. Corazon D Ollado
- A R Elizabeth
- A. Mangaleswari
- J Maryvanaja
- J. Amudha
- Jansi Rani G
- Jeniferyabesh
- K. JEBANGEL RANI
- K. Ledialkingsly
- M John Flora
- J.angel
- REJITHA ANDREW
- P. Jamunarani
- P. Pavithra
- Padmavathi R
- R. Jancy Rani
- R. Tamil Selvi
- Ruby Helen
- Shunmugiah. M
- Sugirtha M
- T. Christina Selvarani
- T. Katherine
- R Muthy Kutty
- Jebastar Jayakumar
- S. Nithya Rebekkal



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 December 2025

3 Months Bible Reading Challenge

- Bollapragada Chandramohan
- D Esther Annal
- Marine Phelsia
- Pauline Mariasundaram
- Sherine Ranjit
- D. PRIMROSE JEBAMARY
- Jelshiya A
- SUSAMMA LUKE
- Rev Dr ARUN CHRISTOPHER
- Kumutha. C
- M. G. GIADIS. PON6
- P. PUSHPA
- Sam W
- T. Ajitha Kumari
- V. Sahana .BBA.,
- T. Lilly Florida
- Pearlson Samuel P
- Beaulah Enoch

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 December 2025

6 Months Bible Reading Challenge

- Krishna Kumar
- M Indra Dinesh
- Sangeetha k
- Teena
- G. Sowrimuthu Rajarathinam
- A. Jennifer
- B. Sofia Jasmine
- Cecil Joseph Turner
- DANIEL D
- Dr. A. MariaSagayam
- G. Priscilla Sheela Thenmozhi
- Grace Benjamin
- Hadlow Oliver
- Indra Manuel
- J. Jothi Jebarani
- Jancy Jayaraj
- Jeyaraj
- Joybell Frank
- ANNA MARY PRABAKARAN
- J.Gracy Joshua
- Vijayakumar
- L. JEYARAJ
- M. Nandhini
- Marry
- Mrs. D. Vinata Solomon
- Mrs. Salomi Edwin
- P. Anithemary
- P. Pamilla Jean
- P. Pamilla Jean
- Paul Chandra Raja G J
- Prabhs chandran
- Rahel Priya Amirtharaj
- Rev D Andrew Christopher Barnabas
- Rosemary Thankanadar
- Rasy S
- S JOHN EGENEZER
- Selvin Iruthayaraj
- T. Advent Monica
- Valarmathi PremAnand
- Thamilarasi
- J. Sheela selvarani
- J. V. SUDHA
- Chandra Bai P
- Rev Dr ARUN CHRISTOPHER
- Shoba Daniel
- Mariammat C
- J.SAGAYA MARY
- T. Varthini
- Paul kannan
- M. Latha
- Sweetly setvarani J
- Jasmine Jesudoss
- Jasmin Dhas
- BEULAH
- Daniel Raj T
- JOHNSON DURAI PANDIAN J
- Julie katherine
- Margreat Roselin
- Beulah Merlin J
- Post to my address
- Mahana Selvaraj
- R. Joyce Thanjom
- சுபத்தி
- SHEEJA SAJAN
- Subothini sivakurunathan

Congratulations!



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GODependence Bible Reading Challenges



Congratulations to the Successful Participants as on 31 December 2025

2 Months Bible Reading Challenge

- AKASH KUMAR AGRAWAL
- Hepzibah Robert
- Mary Bennet
- Angel stanly
- Banupriya
- D. H. JABASELVI
- J. Beula Padmavathy
- Josephine Jeya Amos
- Leslin Suthandhira
- Mrs. Vashita Israel
- R Rani
- R. Amuthaselvi Juliance
- Sumathi M
- Immanuel Francis
- N Jagan
- K. Ledialkingsly
- SHANTHI ALBERT
- Shoba Daniel



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 December 2025

4 Months Bible Reading Challenge

- Mrs. Esther Shanthini Raju
- P. Catherina Vasanthalin
- Vinolia Jasper
- A. Umsmaheswari
- B. Sevli
- Blessiya R
- Blessiya R
- D Malathi
- D. Deva kiruba
- David Shankar
- Sivalakshmi
- Y Sudha
- E. Deva Anbu
- Kamala Gnanaraj
- Mrs. Roslin James
- P. Christy Premalatha
- R C VIMAL CHANDER
- RANJIYHAM DEVAKUMARI.
- Ruby Anbu Grace
- T. Jebeula
- T. Ptema
- Thirunavukkarasu R
- Salomi Pushparaj
- S. Nithya



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 December 2025

1 Year Bible Reading Challenge

- Anila Glory H
- Arputhamani Briskilah
- Edna Mary
- Jadon Amirtharaj
- Jayakumari
- Jiby Mathew John
- Joel Praveen Kumar
- Gunesagoran
- Mary Nthuku
- Mary vijayakumar
- Nirmal Harzary
- RAMESH
- Richard Nthuku
- S. Kevin Jebakumar
- Sheeba Mathew
- Shiji Robert
- Sneha Jayher
- Stella Paul
- Steve Hudson Pethuru
- T. REETA RAJA KUMARI
- VUJAYAKUMAR
- VETHASIRONHONY
- S. Grace Sandra
- A. Kasthuri
- Dashkaran. T
- Christy Wesley
- Dr. X. STELLAMARY
- E. C. Chandra
- Eether Stephen
- G. Edward William
- Gideon S
- H. SYRES
- Hema stella
- HEPHZIBA MERLIN J
- J. NICKSON SOLOMON
- J. Catherine Mary
- Pramila
- J. JEBARANI
- J. M. Simi
- Janca. J
- Janitha
- Jeya roselin
- Jga. S. Molchigah
- Joshua Jesudoss J
- Mala Christy Roselin. D
- Mary Theresa Savier
- Mrs. Jessy Santhosh
- Mrs. Miesline Selvam
- Mrs. Selvakumari
- Pravin Kumar A
- R Mini Juliet
- R. Tamil Selvi
- RAVI T
- Rashma Sharon R
- S. Johni Julius
- Sevitha
- Sherada M H
- Sheja D S Leilah
- Srimathi Benny
- Stella Johnson
- Suganya.
- Sujatha. J
- Sukumar Arulnesan
- Sumamatha. Y
- T. Roselin hemalatha
- T. Jacob Lazar
- Jeyakumar
- Usha. P
- VUJAYA JACOB
- Arul Rani J
- Christy Joseph
- Santhini Edward
- G. Pragas
- Yoganantham
- Dborah Ghosh
- Dr. Elizabeth David
- REGINA PANDIAN
- Nilima Subodh Sathia
- Sunita
- Cheenu Rani
- Pethuru
- R.Chitra
- Viji Rajasekar
- J. Benjamin Vedaneyagam
- Dr G Prakash Yoganandam
- B Sharmila
- Dr. Jasmin Vigila Jacob Samuel
- Viji Rajasekar
- Amirtharaj Thangaraj
- P. Jayanthi
- Melishapaul
- SHEEDA RAJ
- C. Panchevarnadevi
- C. Seetha Blesie
- Navarathnam mary Agnes
- P. Vincent
- J. Jasmine Boula Margret
- Francis Xavier



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Congratulations!

Certificate will be send to them in due time

If you wish to good ways, study the word of God. - Lailah Gifty Akita

History of the English Bible

- Dr. T. S Rajasekar, Bangalore.



English Bible
Indian Version

God wants to live in relationship with his loved ones. In order to establish and maintain relationship we need to know each other. God knows everything about us. But we can know him only if he reveals himself to us. God has revealed himself through general revelations, that is his creation and his work in human history. In addition to these two general revelations, he has also given us two special revelations in the written Word of God, the Bible, and through the living word of God, Jesus Christ.

God chose his servants and inspired them to write down his messages to the people to whom he wanted to reveal himself. These writings were, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, collected and canonized as Scripture. Thus we have 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament that reveal to us about God's nature, purposes and his expectations from us. These books were written in the languages of the first recipients, Old Testament in Hebrew and the New Testament in Greek. Since we don't speak these languages, we need the Scripture to be translated into our own languages. In this article we will briefly look into the history of the English translation of the Bible.

John Wycliffe and his followers translated the Bible in English from the Latin Vulgate around the year 1380. **William Tyndale** was the first one to translate English Bible from Greek and Hebrew. He completed the NT in 1526 and was martyred before he could complete the OT. **Miles Coverdale** completed it in 1535.

After that Great Bible (1539) and Geneva Bible (1560) came into existence **King James I**, commissioned to bring out an authorised version of the Bible and in 1611 it was published as KJV. When it's language became archaic, it was revised as English Revised version in 1885.

Publication dates of some popular Bible translations:

1901 - The American Standard Version

1952 - Revised Standard Version

1971- New American Standard Bible

1973 - New International Version

1982 - New King James Version

1990 - New Revised Standard Version

2002 - English Standard Version

2004 - Christian Standard Bible

1996 - New Living Translation

2011 - Common English Bible.

There are different principles that guide the translation work

- **Literal / Word-for-Word Translation** - NASB, ESV, NET, KJV, NKJV
- **Optimal / Meaning for Meaning Translation** - CSB
- **Dynamic / Thought for Thought Translation** - NIV, NLT, CEB
- **Paraphrase / Retelling Translation** - NiRV, TEV, MSG

- Dr.T.S Rajasekar, Bangalore

(If you have any questions regarding the Bible translations, you are welcome to ask. The author will give answers in our next Newsletter.)

Testimony - Sis. Mano Magdaline ★★★★★

Your name, hometown, family, Christian background & upbringing:

Praise the Lord. My name is Mano Magdaline. I am speaking from Coimbatore. I am currently studying the Bible by joining this Bible reading group. Before this, I used to read the Bible once a year. We wouldn't be able to read it properly, but we would definitely complete it once a year. While I was doing that, the son of our pastor in my church, Wordson Jayakumar, told me, "Sister, there is a Bible reading group program like this. If you join it, it will be very useful for you. I have joined it and read the Bible many times, and it has been very helpful to me," he said. Only then did I come to know that such a group existed.

How many times have you read the entire Bible so far? How many times through the GODependence program?

I came to know about this in 2025 and joined this Bible reading group. After joining this, in this year alone, in 11 months, I have completed reading the Bible four times. Two times through the one-month Bible challenges and two times through the two-month Bible challenges, a total of four times this year I completed the Bible. This is a great favor that the Lord has done for me. I thank the Lord. May the Lord bless you who are doing this ministry abundantly. We bless you in the name of the Lord.

How did the GODependence group's method help you?

It is very, very useful. When we read the Bible on other days or at other times, if we miss a portion, we won't be able to complete that portion. We will just leave it as it is. But here, they are giving us that opportunity. They send the portions daily. We have to complete that portion. We have told the Lord that we will complete it. If we join this program, say a one-month program, we have to somehow complete the portion assigned to our team. Even if we miss it due to some important work, they give us the opportunity to read the missed portions on Sunday. Because they provide this opportunity, even if we miss a little, we complete it. Because of this, I have read

The longer you read the Bible, the more you will like it; it will grow sweeter and sweeter. - William Romaine

Testimony - Sis. Mano Magdaline ...★★★★★

the Bible four times this year. Until now, in my life, I have only read the Bible once completely, and then perhaps half of it another time.

What blessings have you received through reading the Holy Bible?

Reading it four times is a grace given to me by the Lord. This is the first time in my life that I have read it four times. May countless glory and praise be to the Lord.

May the Lord bless you who are doing these kinds of ministries. These kinds of ministries are very beneficial to us. I also participated in the Bible reading marathon that took place on October 2nd, and by God's grace, I also participated in the Bible reading marathon that took place yesterday, on the 14th December 2025, and God gave me the grace to complete it successfully.

Finally, what would you like to say in a few lines?

Truly, when we engage ourselves in spiritual matters more than all the worldly things, the Lord gives peace to our minds. I am currently reading the Bible for the fifth time. I am reading it with the goal of completing the fifth reading before the end of this year. Countless thanks to the Lord. May the Lord bless you and your ministries for doing this. Glory be to God.

Readers Voice

We warmly invite our readers to share your views, opinions, feedback, testimonies, and questions related to the contents of this newsletter. Your insights encourage us, enrich others, and help strengthen this growing community of the lovers of the word of God.

Selected contributions will be featured each month in the **Readers' Voice** section of the GODependence Newsletter. Let us grow together by learning from one another and by sharing how God's Word is working in our lives.

Your voice matters to us. We look forward to hearing from you.



+91 95255 95265

As we read the Bible and meditate on it, we discover God's will and God's strategy for his people in this world.

Bible Book Overview

1 Timothy

1 Timothy

Time of Writing: A.D. 62 – A.D. 64

Author of the Book: Paul

Time of Events: A.D. 62

Type of Book: Letter

Introduction to the Book

• The two letters written to Timothy and the letter written to Titus are known as the Pastoral Epistles. They are called so because they were written to pastors (bishops) Timothy and Titus and deal with matters related to pastoral ministry.

Context and Purpose

• Timothy, a co-worker of Paul, was from Lystra. His father was a Greek (a Gentile), and his mother was a Jewish Christian (Acts 16:1). He became a Christian through Paul and served alongside him during the second and third missionary journeys (Acts 16:3; 19:22). Paul often sent Timothy on important missions (Acts 19:2; 1 Cor.

4:17; 1 Thess. 3:2). According to 1 Timothy 1:3, Timothy served as the overseer (bishop) of the church in Ephesus. After appointing Timothy to oversee the church in Ephesus (1:3), Paul went to Macedonia. Realizing

that he might not return to Ephesus, Paul wrote this letter to remind Timothy of his responsibilities as a bishop. Paul wrote to encourage him in his responsibility of supervising the church in Ephesus and the other churches in the province of Asia (1 Tim. 1:3). This letter lays the foundation for appointing elders (1 Tim. 3:1-7) and provides guidance for appointing people to offices in the church (1 Tim. 3:8-13). In essence, 1 Timothy serves as a leadership manual for church organization and administration.

Key Verses

1 Timothy 2:5; 2:12; 3:1-3; 4:9-10; 6:12

Summary of the Book

• Paul instructs Timothy to oppose false teachings (1:3-7; 4:1-8; 6:3-5, 20-21), because Gnostic ideas were beginning to spread at that time. This teaching claimed that the world was evil, that salvation required secret knowledge, that certain foods must be avoided, and that marriage should be forbidden. Paul urges Timothy to carefully oversee worship and administration in the Ephesian church (2:1-15) and advises him to appoint qualified leaders (3:1-13; 5:17-25). This is the first letter Paul wrote to Timothy, a young pastor who assisted him in ministry. Timothy was of mixed heritage—his mother was Jewish and his father was Greek. Paul acted as a

mentor and leader to Timothy, being like a father to him, while Timothy was like a son to Paul (1 Tim. 1:2). Paul begins the letter by urging Timothy to be on guard against false teachers and false doctrines. However, much of the letter focuses on pastoral conduct. Paul instructs Timothy about worship (chapter 2) and the development of mature church leaders (chapter 3). Much of the letter addresses pastoral behavior, warnings about false teachers, and the church's responsibility toward widows, elders, and slaves. Throughout the letter, Paul encourages Timothy to stand firm, persevere, and remain faithful to his calling.

Jesus Christ in the Book

Jesus Christ is presented by Paul as the mediator between God and humanity (1 Tim. 2:5).

Practical Application

Paul instructs Timothy on matters of church doctrine, leadership, and administration. The same principles can be applied to the governance of local churches today. Likewise, the role and ministry of a pastor, as well as the qualifications for elders and overseers, remain as important and relevant today as they were in Timothy's time. This letter provides guidance on leading, managing, and shepherding the local church. The instructions in this epistle apply to any current or future church leader and are just as applicable today as they were in Paul's day. Every follower of Christ must contend for the faith, avoid false teachings, and stand firm with perseverance.

Structure of the Book

1. Introduction - 1:1-2
2. Sound Doctrine - 1:3-20
3. Instructions on Worship and Leadership - 2:1-3:16
4. Instructions Concerning Timothy's Ministry - 4:1-6:19
5. Final Charge and Warning - 6:20-21



Collection: Bro. Darwin Nesakumar A

LET'S PLAY BIBLE GAME - 15

From the given pictures find the verses from

Scripture Portion: 1 Timothy



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

1



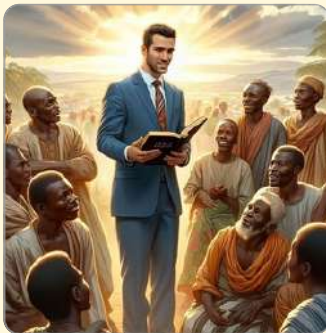
2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10



<https://forms.gle/GnzNmL79R6TBQkri6>

Click on the given link and send the correct answer before 25/01/2026.

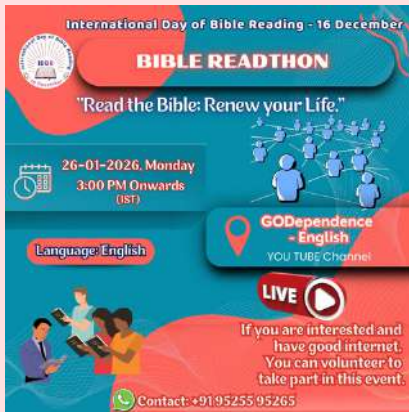
The first 10 persons who send the correct answer will be mentioned
in the next month's newsletter.

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

Bible Readathon on 26 January 2026

1



We are planning to conduct a Bible Readathon every month in the year 2026.

Accordingly, a Bible Readathon in the English language is scheduled to take place on January 26, starting at 3:00 PM (Indian Standard Time).

We invite those who have good internet connectivity and are able to read the Bible fluently in English to participate in this event.

2

GODependence Talkshow - January 2026

Topic: Bible Reading and Spiritual Formation

(An insightful and interactive session to understand the basics of Spiritual formation, to understand the secrets of becoming more like Jesus, and to move you from self-centeredness to God-centeredness through reading the Bible.)

Date: 30 November 2025 Sunday Evening 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm IST

Speaker: Rev. Dr. J. N. Manoharan, Chennai.

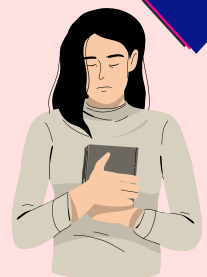


3

Bible Meditation Groups (BMG) - Training Sessions


Due to unavoidable circumstances, the Bible Meditation Groups (BMG) we had planned to restart in 2025 have not been initiated so far.

Pray for the Training sessions on "How to Meditate the Word of God" to be planned and conducted for those who are willing to join these groups.



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 **GODependence Bible Reading Challenges**

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