

# Welcome to Reading the Bible seminar



Anglican  
Church of Noosa  
Loving and serving you because of Jesus

# The big picture of worship

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

Romans 1

## ...and Sunday is part of that

We gather in a focussed way as a subset of our whole-of-life-worship to sing God's praises, hear God's word, feed at God's table, pray and encourage one another.

Every part of what we do **together**, ought to inspire us keep on worshipping moment by moment during the week.

# When we come together...

The way the Bible is read ought to inspire the congregation to go on reading the Bible during the week.

## Psalm 1

<sup>1</sup> Blessed is the one who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers.

<sup>2</sup> But their delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and on his law he meditates day and night.

<sup>3</sup> That one is like a tree planted by streams of water,  
which yields its fruit in season  
and whose leaf does not wither.  
Whatever they do prospers.

# The role of Scripture

<sup>14</sup> But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, <sup>15</sup> and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup> All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:14-17

Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching.

1 Timothy 4:13

# Qualifications for reading the Bible

Must be a person who reads the Bible....

Must have a humble confidence in being out the front

Must have a pretty clear understanding of language, punctuation and grammar

Must have a good strong voice

Must be able to read with expression, feeling and drama

Must be prepared to spend an hour preparing

# Preparation for reading the Bible

Pray – asking the Lord to give you wisdom to understand the Bible, then reading and clarity in reading it.

Ensure you understand the passage

- how will you be able to *read* it clearly if you don't get it?
- how will others start to understand if you don't?
- at what point in the Bible's story line does it occur?
- what's the context – what has happened before?
- what follows?
- read study notes or commentary
- phone Mark or Adam if you require additional help
- search your own heart in the light of the passage

# Preparation for reading the Bible

Read the passage aloud

- you will see new things when reading it aloud

Mark the passage up

- where should the emphasis lie?
- where should the pauses be?
- where will you raise or lower your voice?
- what tone of voice is required?
- is there an element of surprise? Or awe? Or wonder?  
How will you express that?

Examples

- today's gospel reading
- Romans 8:28-39 (p 1119)

# Preparation for reading the Bible

Read the passage aloud – AGAIN

Determine the right pace  
(usually slower than you think...)

Pray – that the Lord will be at work through his Word

# Practical tips

Gather in the vestry/office for prayer before the service

Read the order of service – know when to come forward

Pray as you head for the microphone

Am I speaking in to the microphone? – adjust if needed

# Practical tips

## Announcing the reading

- announce – telling us which reading it is
  - “The Old Testament reading is from the book”
  - “The Epistle reading is James chapter 1, v1”
  - “The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to...”
- give page number
- give reference again

## WAIT

- while people look up the reference before starting to read

# Practical tips

Gospel announcement

“The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke, chapter 8, v 40”

**GLORY TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST**

“That can be found on p 1024 – Luke Ch 8, v 40”

WAIT

- while people look up the reference before starting to read

At the end:

“This is the Gospel of the Lord” **PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST**

# Practical tips

Not the **PEW** Bibles! - either – “the Bibles” or “Church Bibles” or simply the page number without mentioning “Bible”.

Please don't read the section headings – they are not Scripture

If having trouble pronouncing a word – try listening to how it is pronounced at [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com) or similar (though please note I don't think this version is particularly well read!)

# Closing prayer

# Reading the Bible seminar

## Thank you for coming



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