

A MENU OF RESOURCES FOR PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY

These resources have all been recommended by people in the Diocese. If none of them are quite what you're looking for, call or email Mandy Stanton – mandy.stanton@blackburn.anglican.org / 01254 503084 – and we will try to find something that will help. And if you would like to recommend something that isn't here, please tell Mandy about it!

Online study resources:

Word Live



A free, online guide from Scripture Union, helping you meet with God devotionally – through the Bible. Each day uses a new Bible passage with fresh resources to refresh your quiet time with God. There are two distinct approaches: Classic and Lectio. Also available as a daily email and through social media.

What people say:

Wordlive is a great resource for daily Bible reading. It gives you a picture, a passage, a comment, pointers for prayer and a song to listen to. You can listen to the podcast for a change. If you have more time there is a 'Going Deeper' section with more background information and space for comments from users too. Mark and I use it most days for our prayer time together, and we enjoy the flexibility of being able to access it from a tablet or smartphone and the variety of different contributors.

Gill Ireland

www.wordlive.org/



Faithlife.com

An online resource which allows people to explore different versions of bibles and commentaries, linked with logos.com, and try different reading plans; it is also possible to set up a closed group (for instance, within a church congregation) to allow people to share their insights or questions, ask for prayers amongst the community and much more.

It is available on the website, or app for any phone or tablet or computer.

<https://faithlifebible.com/>

E100 Bible Challenge

5 readings a week which encompass the main themes of the Bible and give the big picture in 20 weeks. 50 readings from the Old Testament and 50 from the New Testament. Can be used for whole Churches or individuals. The reading plan can be downloaded freely, notes and a group study guide are also available.



<http://www.e100challenge.org.uk/>

Daily online reflections from the Bible Society:

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/daily-reflection/>



Explore app

The Explore App from the Good Book Company contains daily Bible readings with questions to help you engage with the Bible. On the Apple AppStore and Google play.

Audio Bible

If you prefer to listen to the Bible rather than reading it, there are some helpful audio resources at <https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/audio/>

Top tips for reading the Bible

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/articles-about-the-bible/7-top-tips-for-reading-the-bible/>

<https://www.christianity.org.uk/index.php/a/how-to-start-reading-the-bible.php>

Paper study resources:



BRF Bible Reading Notes

Daily Bible reading notes available include:

Bible Reading Fellowship - [New Daylight](#), [Guidelines](#), [Day by Day with God](#) and [The Upper Room](#). Also available as [apps for iOS and Android](#), [Kindle eBooks and daily email](#), [PDF downloads](#), [Giant print and audio and braille](#)

What people say:

New Daylight provides commentary on short passages by a variety of stimulating contributors from a range of church backgrounds. These are sometimes thematic and sometimes work through a longer part of scripture. Ideal for those who prefer a prompt for further thought rather than detailed commentary!

Mandy Stanton

Scripture Union – [Daily Bread](#) (also available as a tablet or smartphone app)



CWR (Christian World Revival) have a number of daily Bible Study notes, including [Every Day With Jesus](#) and [Cover to Cover](#).

What people say:

Every Day with Jesus is a really helpful resource for Bible Reading and Study. I have used it for years! It is a two month series based on a theme. Each day there is a main passage of Scripture with a commentary about it and two or three other passages to read and reflect on that are also related to that particular day's main passage. Sometimes I go back to older editions for insight when a God is leading me in a particular direction.

Angie Letchford



Church House Publishing – Reflections for Daily Prayer provides a reflection on one of the Bible readings for the day, full lectionary details for Morning Prayer and a Collect for the day. <https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/features/reflections>

What people say:

Reflections for Daily Prayer is a kind of 'Daily Bread' for Anglicans - a great companion for those who like to follow the weekday lectionary readings for morning prayer. It provides a page for each day with the lectionary, a collect and a reflection on one of the set passages. The contributors come from a wide range of traditions but each aims to help the reader understand the passage and to apply it to their own journey of discipleship. It is available as an annual book (starting on Advent Sunday) or as an app from Church House Publishing. There is a companion volume covering all the Psalms.

Archdeacon Mark Ireland

International Bible Reading Association – [Fresh from the Word](#): notes, prayers and suggestions for how to take action from a range of writers from around the world, including biblical scholars and top theologians. creative writers, church leaders and activists for peace and justice



The Good Book Company – [Explore](#), a quarterly publication aiming to make the reader think for themselves about what the Bible says and how it applies today. Boxes encourage you to take 'Time out' to reflect, to apply or to pray. Also available in undated versions on specific books.

Bible Overview:

The Bible Course

The course follows the story-line of the Bible from cover to cover (Genesis to Revelation). Along the way, it shows how to interpret the Bible and apply its message to our lives today. There are 8 sessions each lasting 90 minutes, including DVD teaching and small group discussion. See <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/the-bible-course/> . There is a copy of the course in the library at the Diocesan Offices if you would like to take a look.



God's Big Picture, Vaughan Roberts

A course based on Vaughan Roberts' excellent book (also in the library at the Diocesan offices), with nine 10-13 minute videos and an hour long Bible study to do yourself or with a group, is now available to download free from <https://www.godsbigpicture.co.uk/>

Routes of Faith

You might also like to consider doing one or both of the biblically based modules of the Routes of Faith course - <https://www.blackburn.anglican.org/routes-of-faith-programme>

Books:

TOZER for the CHRISTIAN LEADER – a 365 day devotional by A W Tozer (Moody Publishing)

What people say:

I love this book! There is a main passage of scripture to focus on and a commentary. The commentaries are often deep and challenging driving me to pray and search out my own heart before God. There is a page for everyday of the year and each month is themed e.g. January is about personal life with God, April is about Prayer

Angie Letchford

Believe, Max Lucado – based on a 32 week sermon series at Oak Hills Church in the USA, which considers ten key beliefs of the Christian faith, ten key practices of a Jesus-follower, and ten key virtues that characterize someone who is becoming more like Jesus..

<http://oakhillschurch.com/believebooks/>

Dig Deeper: Tools to Unearth the Bible's Treasure, Nigel Beynon, N and Andrew Sach (IVP) - a useful toolkit of techniques to help people to interpret the Bible

Evolution of the Word, Marcus Borg (Bravo Ltd)

What people say:

One of the difficulties some people have in reading the New Testament is getting bogged down in the Epistles after the first five months or so it takes to read the more familiar Gospels and Acts. Professor Marcus J. Borg's book *Evolution of the Word* is well worth following, and it contains his own, modern, translation presented in the order in which the books were written.

Tracy Swindells

And more frivolously:

The world's smallest Bible commentary

Australian writer and theologian, Ben Myers, started tweeting summaries of each book of the Bible. What emerged was 'the world's smallest' Bible commentary. It's poetic, informative and refreshing. Enjoy...

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/articles-about-the-bible/a-bible-commentary-fit-for-twitter/>