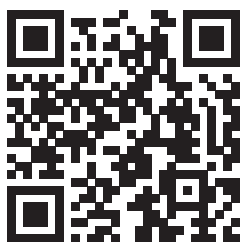




www.onebookonebody.org/

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**Just as each of us has one
body with many members,
and these members do not
all have the same function,
so in Christ we who are
many form one body,
and each member belongs
to all the others.**

Romans 12:4-5, NIV





WHAT IS IT?

One Book/One Body is a community-building activity for the people of Byron Center and beyond.

Those who participate — singles, couples, families, neighbors — will read one chapter of the Bible every day throughout the year.

The idea is to put ourselves, quite literally, on the same page as each other!

WHO'S IT FOR?

Anyone with a connection to Byron Center.

WHEN'S IT HAPPENING?

All year long. Starting January 1, 2026.

WHERE WILL IT BE?

In church, at home, at the coffee shop, at work—everywhere around our community.

WHY DO THIS?

Good question. The short answers are:

- It will be fun — and it will build community.
- It will answer questions — and it will give you new questions.
- It will be challenging — and it will be rewarding.

The long answer is what the rest of this booklet is about. To give you a better picture, follow the arrows through a fun exercise to discover some Bible related and Byron Center trivia.

TURN THE PAGE

QUESTION #5

Just for fun, circle the Biblical names of people you know:

Adam Benjamin Daniel David Deborah Elijah
Elizabeth Esther Ezra Gabriel Jacob James
Jason Joel John Joseph Joshua Luke Mark
Mary Matthew Michael Nathan Paul Peter
Philip Ruth Stephen Timothy Thomas

How many did you circle? _____

QUESTION #1

Which two phrases are not in the Bible?

- "Am I my brother's keeper?"
- "God moves in mysterious ways"
- "in the twinkling of an eye"
- "the skin of my teeth"
- "Can a leopard change his spots?"
- "apple of his eye"
- "a drop in the bucket"
- "God helps those who help themselves"

QUESTION #2

How many times did Shakespeare quote from the Bible?

- 200
- 400
- 800
- 1600

Source: *What If the Bible Had Never Been Written?*, D. James Kennedy and Jerry Newcombe, Thomas Nelson Publishers, Nashville, 1998.

QUESTION #3

Who did not say, "a house divided against itself cannot stand?"

- Abraham Lincoln
- Jesus Christ
- Winston Churchill

QUESTION #4

As of 2000, how many Bibles are estimated to be in existence?

- 14,000,000
- 140,000,000
- 1,400,000,000

Based on calculations from *World Christian Trends A.D. 30-A.D. 2200: Interpreting the Annual Christian Megacensus*, David B. Barrett and Terry M. Johnson, William Carey Library, Pasadena, CA, 2001.

Answers: 1. b & h (a. Genesis 4:9, c.1 Corinthians 15:52, d. Job 19:20, e. Jeremiah 13:23, f. Deuteronomy 32:10, g. Isaiah 40:15); 2. c; 3. c (Lincoln famously used the phrase regarding the division over slavery; it was a paraphrase of Jesus' statement in Mark 3:25); 4. c.

QUESTION #6

How did Byron Township get its name?

- a. after the controversial English poet, Lord Byron.
- b. after Cpt. J. Byron, who, after serving with the Colonial Army, settled near Ypsilanti, MI
- c. after the brother of state surveyor, Roger Peterson.

QUESTION #7

Who's believed to be the first "settler" in Byron Township?

- a. Samuel Towner
- b. James McKinney
- c. Nathan Boynton

QUESTION #8

Eight years before Byron Center's first Post Office and Train, the Methodist Church was built in:

- a. 1841 b. 1861 c. 1881

QUESTION #11

Now one of the longest running festivals in the state, in 2026 Byron Days is planning to host its _____ festival.

- a. 65th b. 75th c. 80th d. 90th

QUESTION #12

During World War II, how was Byron Township bombed by Japan?

- a. A Japanese student, lit off a brick of firecrackers during a Halloween's eve riot.
- b. A fire bomb was dropped from a hot air balloon that had been launched into the jet stream from Japan.
- c. A torpedo was launched from a Japanese submarine that had navigated into Lake Michigan.

QUESTION #9

Samuel Towner, who surveyed the original plat for Byron Center, drew his pension as "a survivor of" what war?

- a. The Civil War
- b. The War of 1812
- c. World War I

QUESTION #10

Which US President and/or candidate does not have a Byron Center connection?

- a. Candidate William Jennings Bryan
- b. President James Garfield
- c. President Theodore Roosevelt
- d. President Gerald R. Ford

QUESTION #13

Which stone in Winegar Cemetery was known as the "glowing gravestone"

- a. Drinkall
- b. Winegar
- c. Leyendecker

QUESTION #14

From 2000 to 2020, Byron Township grew by 17,553 people giving us today's population estimate at over:

- a. 21,000
- b. 23,000
- c. 25,000
- d. 27,000

Chances are, there's quite a bit you can still learn about the Bible and about the community you live in. You have some kind of connection to them all, but your interaction with them can be taken further. That's what *One Book/One Body* is all about.

So, are you interested in building community with us?



HMM... I'm not convinced yet. Put it in plain English for me.



YES! This sounds intriguing. How do I get started?

Turn the page...

THE ONE BOOK/ONE BODY BIBLE-READING PROGRAM

is a concerted effort by our community to recognize the importance of the Bible to our history, our faith, our families, and our future. We invite you to investigate this significant book with us, as we journey through it together — some as rookies, some as seasoned travelers, all with new and exciting discoveries.

ONE BOOK Many library councils around the country have promoted community-building and enjoyment by reading the same book together. Great discussions arise out of sharing a common text. However, the books themselves rarely change people's lives. The Bible, which has shaped Western society, is the **One Book** with the track record to make a difference in the life of anyone willing to give it a serious read.

ONE BODY There are around 25 churches in Byron Township, representing many differences in practices, doctrines, and denominations. Together we represent the **One Body** of Christ in our community. Reading Scripture together does not require that we relinquish our denominational or doctrinal distinctiveness; it gives us a common discussion point with those who see things differently. The Bible has been, and remains, the **greatest common denominator** in the Christian faith. As we grow closer to God, perhaps we'll find ourselves — all differences INCLUDED — growing closer to each other and to the mission Jesus gave us as His people.

Checklist

- ✓ An interest in learning more about the *One Book/One Body* campaign
- ✓ A willingness to try something you've never done before

- ✓ This booklet
- ✓ **A group to meet with** (the rest of this booklet is designed to be done with others in order to build community)

I need a group...

Completing this booklet with other interested people will give you support and encouragement for your participation in the campaign. It will help you get involved, get connected, and find out why the Bible is such a big deal. See for yourself!

To join a group:

- contact the person who gave you this booklet, or
- contact your pastor, or
- contact Campaign Coordinator, Pastor Jim Heethuis at 616-878-7284.

I have a group...

Perhaps you've just met the people in your group; perhaps you know each other already. Either way, you're about to learn more about each other. Imagine the camaraderie of not only connecting further with the people in this group, but other participants all around our community.

Keep getting together until you finish this booklet. It will challenge and encourage your group to support each other and hold each other accountable toward accomplishing the daily reading goals of the campaign. Moreover, it will encourage you to get others involved.

Participate with your friend, your spouse, your family, your carpool, your club, or your team. Byron Center is a great community! Joining with others in this endeavor will continue to make our community strong!

Start!

Session

1

PARTICIPATION IS **KEY!**

As you go through, try to write down some response to each question in the

margin to share with your group. Keep it simple. Your response doesn't need to be complicated or dramatic, just something so that everybody in your group gets to hear and learn from everybody else.

Group Leaders: go around your group and encourage each person to share what they have written!

FUN ACTIVITY:

What is one of your favorite books (other than the Bible)? Write down the title and your reasons below. If completing this session with a group, give each person an opportunity to share their answers.

Title: _____

Author: _____

Why is it a favorite?

Session



FOCUS:

Certain books are our favorites because they changed the way we look at the world, because of beautiful writing, or because of vivid characters. The Bible has all this and more — it allows us to build a relationship with the author. It allows us to build relationships with each other. **In this session you're going to talk about how the Bible affects us.**



QUIZ: Match the quote with who said it:

- ___ Charles Dickens
- ___ Thomas Jefferson
- ___ Booker T. Washington
- ___ Dwight L. Moody
- ___ William Lyon Phelps,
Yale University professor
- ___ David Robinson,
NBA star
- ___ Theodore Roosevelt
- ___ George Washington

Answers: 1. Washington, 2. Dickens,
3. Jefferson, 4. Moody, 5. Roosevelt,
6. Booker T. Washington, 7. Phelps,
8. Robinson

1. It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible.
2. The New Testament is the greatest Book the world has ever known or ever will know.
3. I have always said, I always say, that the studious perusal of the sacred volume will make better citizens, better fathers, and better husbands.
4. I never saw a useful Christian who was not a student of the Bible.
5. No educated man can afford to be ignorant of the Bible, and no uneducated man can afford to be ignorant of the Bible.
6. I learned to love to read the Bible, not only for the spiritual help which it gives, but on account of it as literature. The lessons taught me in this respect took such a hold upon me that at the present time, when I am at home, no matter how busy I am, I always make it a rule to read a chapter or a portion of a chapter in the morning, before beginning the work of the day.
7. The English Bible has been a greater influence in the course of English literature than all other forces put together. It is impossible to read standard authors intelligently without knowing something about the Bible, for they all assume familiarity with it.
8. I get in the Bible every day. That keeps me on the right path.



INSIDE THE BIBLE:

CLEARLY, THE BIBLE HAS AN EFFECT ON OUR LIVES WHETHER WE OPEN IT OR NOT.

It has helped shape our society, our politics, our literature, our language, our ways of thinking. But what makes this book so influential?

Relationships. The Bible is powerful because it's about relationships. And reading about these relationships will, somehow, help you **build your own**.

Friends

3 John 1:14 — *Peace to you. The friends here send their greetings. Greet the friends there by name.* (NIV)

It might be interesting to figure out how many people in your neighborhood do you know by name.

Write & Discuss: Who in your “neighborhood” is your “closest friend.” Why?

Marriage

Ephesians 5:33 — *Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.* (KJV)

The Biblical portrait of marriage teaches partners that each should consider the other's value greater than one's own. How many marriages can you say that about?

Write & Discuss: Of the couples you know, whose marriage do you really admire? Why?



Family

Acts 21:5 — *But when our time was up, we left and continued on our way. All the disciples and their wives and children accompanied us out of the city, and there on the beach we knelt to pray. (NIV)*

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 — *These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. (NIV)*

Spiritual values are powerfully taught in the context of your family.

Write & Discuss: What spiritual habits do you have in your home? What could happen to your family if for a year you listened to God by reading the Bible together once a day and talked to God in prayer?

Community

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 — *Two people can accomplish more than twice as much as one; they get a better return for their labor. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But people who are alone when they fall are in real trouble. (NLT)*

Ephesians 3:20 — *Now glory be to God, who by his mighty power at work within us is able to do far more than we would ever dare to ask or even dream of — infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, or hopes. (TLB)*

One person reading the Word is one thing. Two is even better. God wants to release his mighty power on us and through us.

Write & Discuss: How would it help you to have our whole community reading the Bible together? What do you think could happen in our community if we read a chapter of the Bible each day for an entire year?

Expanding Community

Romans 12:13 — *Get into the habit of inviting guests home for dinner or, if they need lodging, for the night. (NLT)*

Community happens when people in the community make it happen.

Write & Discuss: How “inviting” are we in this community? Whom can you invite over this week and tell about the *One Book/One Body* campaign?

God

John 15:15 — *I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. (NKJV)*

You can let stories you hear, messages in church, or books you read be your spiritual life. Or you can go straight to the source — Jesus.

Write & Discuss: What would help you strengthen your personal relationship with Jesus?

CONCLUSION:

The Bible has a lot to say about relationships. God wants a relationship with us, so he gives us guidelines for talking to him (that is, praying). The prayer known as the Lord’s Prayer is in the Bible. End your session by reading it together (Luke 11:2-4):

And he said unto them, “When ye pray, say, ‘Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.’” (KJV)

Session

FUN ACTIVITY:

Share about a close friend from long ago or today.

1. How did you meet?
2. How did the friendship get started?
3. How did it grow to “close friend” status?

Briefly write out your responses below and then share with your group.



INSIDE THE BIBLE:

1. How did you meet?

2. How did the friendship get started?

3. How did it grow to “close friend” status?

FOCUS:

The basic building blocks of any long-term friendship or successful marriage are lots of time spent talking and listening together. Although it sounds basic, it's easy to forget to give someone our attention, or share the things important to us. **In this session we will explore talking and listening to each other — by talking and listening to God.**

Reading a chapter of the Bible (listening to God) and using a prayer guide (talking to God) is the **daily goal** of the *One Book/One Body* campaign.

IN THIS EXERCISE, WE’LL PRACTICE LISTENING TO GOD AND TO EACH OTHER.

Step One

Read & Underline:

Read Genesis 2 (ESV) and underline **three things** that interest you or get your attention.

The Seventh Day, God Rests

¹ Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. ² And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. ³ So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

The Creation of Man and Woman

⁴ These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens.

⁵ When no bush of the field was yet in the land and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground, ⁶ and a mist was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground— ⁷ then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. ⁸ And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. ⁹ And out of the ground the Lord God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

¹⁰ A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers. ¹¹ The name of the first is the Pishon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold. ¹² And the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. ¹³ The name of the second river is the Gihon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Cush. ¹⁴ And the name of the third river is the Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

¹⁵ The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. ¹⁶ And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”



¹⁸ Then the Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.” ¹⁹ Now out of the ground the Lord God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰ The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him. ²¹ So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²² And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³ Then the man said,

“This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called Woman,
because she was taken out of Man.”

²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. ²⁵ And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

Step Two

 **Write & Discuss:** Choose one of the items you underlined and write down why you underlined it. Now going clockwise from the youngest person, share what you wrote.

Step Three

 **Write & Discuss:** Write down what you think God wanted you to hear from this passage today. Begin your sentence: “I think God wanted me to hear ...” or “Maybe God’s trying to tell me.” Then, starting with the person who was born farthest from Byron Center, go clockwise and share what you wrote.



PRAYING TOGETHER:

IN THIS EXERCISE, WE’LL PRACTICE TALKING TO GOD AND TO EACH OTHER.

Praying out loud can be difficult even for seasoned Christians. You may never have addressed God before or talked to Him aloud in the presence of others. Just like talking with an old friend or a new acquaintance, sometimes you don’t know what to say or how to say it. That is where using a guide and writing it down can help.

On the next page is a prayer guide known as ACTS. Read through the sample version to get the idea. Then, using the prompts, take five minutes to fill in as much of the guide as you can. After the five minutes, the leader will begin the prayer time by saying “Adoration.” Beginning with the leader and progressing clockwise, each person simply reads what he has written under “Adoration.” If you don’t have anything written in the section, say “pass” or quietly tap the next person. The leader will then continue the pattern by saying, “Confession,” then “Thanksgiving,” then “Supplication.” The leader will close by saying “Amen.”



ADORATION:

(Psalm 8)

CONFESSION:

(Psalm 32:3-5)

THANKSGIVING:

(1 Thessalonians 5:18)

SUPPLICATION:

(Philippians 4:6)

Personal —

Family —

Work —

Friends —

Dreams —

Other needs —

SAMPLE VERSION OF ACTS PRAYER GUIDE.

ADORATION: (As seen in Psalm 8, for example.)

I praise you, God, for your love.

CONFESSION: (As seen in Psalm 32:3-5, for example.)

I'm sorry for not being encouraging to the people closest to me. For not spending time with my kids.

THANKSGIVING: (As seen in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, for example.)

I thank you for a good day. For loving people in my life. For helping us get our car fixed.

SUPPLICATION: (As seen in Philippians 4:6, for example.)

Personal — Help me be more encouraging. Help me find more joy around me.

Family — Help me be a better husband. Help me bring the best out of my wife.

Be with Tara at her game.

Work — Help me enjoy and be grateful for my work.

Friends — Bless Dave, Jim, and Jan.

Dreams — That in my family we grow closer to God and each other, and then share what we have with others.

Other needs — Comfort persecuted Christians in Nigeria.

REFLECTION & DISCUSSION:

ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS AS A GROUP:

- How did doing this Bible study together help you connect with the people doing it? How did it help you connect with God?
- The *One Book/One Body* campaign has the potential to connect you to many other people in a similar fashion. Have your leader read through the following questions and let each person answer **the one** (or ones) most exciting to consider:
 - If you were to read one chapter of the Bible each day for a year, what do you think that would do for your relationship with God?
 - If you were to read one chapter of the Bible each day, and then meet with people from your neighborhood to support each other, what do you think that would do for your relationships in your neighborhood?
 - What if you met with your spouse or a friend once a week to talk about what you read — what would that do for your relationship with your spouse or friend?
 - What if you met with your family each week to talk about the reading? What do you think that would do for your relationships in your family?
 - If all the people in your church, young and old, were to read one chapter of the Bible each day and then support each other with activities (like these sessions), what do you think that would do for the relationships in your church?
 - If hundreds of people in Byron Township were to read from the same passage each day, what would that do for the sense of community in our area?

HOMEWORK:



Before the next session, take a half-hour to meet with a friend, neighbor, or spouse to practice your talking and listening. Read Romans 12 (printed on the next page) and

underline **three things** that interest you. Choose one of them, and explain to the other person **why you underlined it**. Then discuss what you think God **wanted you to hear** from the passage. Finish by praying through the ACTS guide together.



ADORATION:

(Psalm 8)

CONFESSION:

(Psalm 32:3-5)

THANKSGIVING:

(1 Thessalonians 5:18)

SUPPLICATION: (Philippians 4:6)

Personal —

Family —

Work —

Friends —

Dreams —

Other needs —

ROMANS 12

A Living Sacrifice

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Gifts of Grace

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶ Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷ if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Marks of the True Christian

⁹ Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰ Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” ²⁰ To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. (ESV)

Session

FUN ACTIVITY:

PART ONE: Divide your group into pairs. Each team will need one piece of paper and two pencils. Without any planning or discussion, the teams draw as many squares as they can in one minute — however, *each person can draw only two lines* of any particular square. How many did you draw together? Which team drew the most squares?

PART TWO: Now take *two minutes to plan* how you are going to double your square-drawing output. When the two minutes are through, try the one-minute experiment again. Did you double your output? Did any team figure out how to draw hundreds of squares in one minute?

FOCUS:

In this activity, you may have discovered that making a plan greatly improves your chance of success in reaching a goal. You will need such a plan if you are going to stick with the *One Book/One Body* program for an entire year. **In this session, you will discover the strategies and resources to make it happen in your own life.** Step-by-step, we'll help you create a plan for WALKING — taking time with God — and another for TALKING — sharing that walk with others.



YOUR WALKING PLAN (taking specific time for God):

Write & Discuss: How well did your homework go? Did it challenge you? Was it rewarding?

To complete 365 similar homework assignments during the year, it will help to have a solid plan. Plans require five parts: a curriculum, a goal, a schedule, a reward, and support. Take 10 minutes to fill out these sections and then share as a group:

Part 1: Curriculum

The most consistent and trustworthy way to listen to God is through the Bible. That's why it's the "One Book" we will be reading throughout the year.

There are many kinds of Bibles. Some have been passed down through generations; others are new study Bibles packed with historical information. Several different English translations (of the original Hebrew and Greek writings) are available. There are even audio and online Bibles, and Bibles for different reading levels. If you need help deciding which Bible to use, check with your group leader or your pastor, if you have one.

Write & Discuss: What Bible(s) are you likely to use for listening to God?

The main way we talk to God is through regular prayer. The ACTS prayer guide is one helpful option; feel free to choose another guide if you know one. Again, your group leader or pastor would gladly offer suggestions.

Write & Discuss: What prayer guide are you likely to use for talking to God?



For more resources and information, check out:
onebookonebody.org



What if I miss a day?

The goal is daily Bible engagement. If you've missed a day, don't worry about making it up.

Read TODAY'S chapter and you're back on track!

Part 2: Goal

In order to do this *One Book/One Body* project together, we are all going to have the same goal: To read one chapter of the Bible each day of this year. The reading program (see clip-out bookmark on the last page) covers 365 chapters. The chapters covered are the highlights of the Bible.

- ☐ I agree to read one chapter a day this year.
- ☐ My spouse and I agree to read one chapter a day this year.
- ☐ My family and I agree to read one chapter a day this year.
- ☐ My friend(s) and I agree to read one chapter a day this year.

Part 3: Schedule

Write & Discuss: What time of day will you set aside to meet with God for your specific Scripture reading and prayer goals? Mark the chart with an "X."

Part 4: Reward

What if even *half* of the people, couples, or families in our community succeeded at reading the Bible every day? What if all the pastors were preaching out of the seven chapters that we had read that week? Consider what God might accomplish through us! The rewards would be beyond our imagination!

Still, more tangible, periodic rewards to celebrate your progress can keep you going over the long haul. Consider appropriate rewards to motivate yourself, your family, or your group:

- ☐ Tickets to a play, sporting event, water park, or concert
- ☐ Weekend road trip to somewhere you've never been
- ☐ Opportunity to participate in a church mission trip
- ☐ Other:

* **Pastors:** How might you set up rewards and recognition for your congregation?

** **Household and congregational progress charts and stickers are available.**

Contact your group leader, church coordinator, or the campaign coordinator if interested.

Part 5: Support

1 Thessalonians 5:11 — *Encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.* (NIV)

Hebrews 10:24 — *Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.* (NIV)

Many would-be Bible readers fail to actually read the Bible for lack of support. It's a big book! Once you've completed this session, fill out the commitment page at the back of this booklet and give it to your *One Book/One Body* leader or church coordinator.

In return you'll be eligible for special ***One Book/One Body identification materials***: wristbands, t-shirts, house signs, bumper stickers, etc. These will signal to others your commitment to participate, and create opportunities for you to support and encourage other participants. Talk to your leader to find out what's being done in Byron Center.

All together, creating an identifiable culture of Bible-reading **will help everyone succeed!**

Write & Discuss: Who specifically can support, encourage, and challenge you in the *One Book/One Body* effort—neighbors, friends, relatives, groups? (On the previous schedule grid, use an "O" to indicate when you plan to meet with these people.)

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
SUN			
MON			
TUE			
WED			
THU			
FRI			
SAT			



YOUR TALKING PLAN (sharing it with others):

READ ACTS 8:26-40 ALOUD IN THE GROUP.

Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch

²⁶ Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. ²⁷ And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸ and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” ³⁰ So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹ And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³² Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he opens not his mouth.

³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth.”

³⁴ And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶ And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” ³⁸ And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹ And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea. (ESV)

1. How has your leader been like Philip to you?
 - A. Answered all your questions
 - B. Simply walked alongside you in your questions
 - C. Helped you get closer to Jesus
2. How have you been like the Ethiopian?
 - A. Eager to learn
 - B. Confused
 - C. Ready to make commitments
 - D. Other:

 **Write & Discuss:** What has doing these three sessions with this group done for you?

The Bible does not tell us what happened to the Ethiopian in this story. But we know from history that Christianity spread in a big way to his country. Could it be that this high official went back to his country and then, like Philip, helped others?



The goal of these sessions has been to help you commit yourself to a year-long campaign in the Byron Center area. Your leaders have been like Philip to you. Having graduated from this short course, you now have the opportunity to become Philips yourselves—people who help someone else get a walk with God.

Write & Discuss: Make a list of people you know who you think would benefit from going through this booklet; people with whom you could start a new group.

What's keeping you from planting a few seeds with those you've written down?

- A. I'm too afraid of what they might think.
- B. I'm too afraid they might say they are not interested.
- C. I'm too busy now, maybe some day.
- D. Nothing. How do I get going?

If you answered "A," read this verse and proceed to Step 1: *For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.* (2 Timothy 1:7, NLT)

If you answered "B," read this verse and proceed to Step 1: *Be sure to stay busy and plant a variety of crops, for you never know which will grow—perhaps they all will.* (Ecclesiastes 11:6, NLT)

If you answered "C," read this verse and proceed to Step 1: *If you wait until the wind and the weather are just right, you will never plant anything and never harvest anything.* (Ecclesiastes 11:4, TEV)

If you answered "D," then here is what you do:



STEP 1: MAKE A COMMITMENT

- Turn to page 16 and complete the form.
- You will turn in the bottom half of the page to your group leader or church coordinator.
- The top half of the page you will keep as a bookmark in your chosen Bible to remind you of your "WALKING Plan."
- Commit to contacting the people on your list above and invite them to join you. Don't assume they're not interested, just ask! What you do with the "TALKING" part of your plan will help make community a reality!

STEP 2: IDENTIFY YOURSELF

Let people know that you are participating in the *One Book/One Body* campaign! Talk about it with your family, at school, in line at the grocery store, among your co-workers and fellow church members.

Using campaign materials will identify yourself as a participant and give you opportunities to connect with

other participants — those who may be curious rookies or mature brothers or sisters in Christ. Ask your group leader, church coordinator, or go to the webpage to find out how to get your campaign I.D. materials.

Turn the page...

Need some online reading options? Try the YouVersion app or onebookonebody.org.

STEP 3: EQUIP YOURSELF

Make sure you have the materials you will need to be successful. Do you need a new Bible? Do your children need Bibles they can understand? Does your group need study materials that will encourage discussion about what you are reading? Do you have extra campaign materials for the people you'll invite to join? Get what you need through:

- Your church's coordinator,
- Campaign coordinator, Jim Heethuis (616-878-7284), or, for more info
- www.onebookonebody.org

STEP 4: LEAD A GROUP

Help spread the Word! Download and print as many copies of the Byron Center *One Book/One Body* Introductory Study as you need for the people on your list.

The study is a PDF file that can be e-mailed, reprinted, and distributed as needed. Meet with the people on your list as many times as it takes to complete the three sessions.

www.onebookonebody.org



STEP 5: GROW!

Enjoy God's blessings as
you build your relationship
with Him and others
through daily Bible reading
and prayer!



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Produced by Pathway Church, 2026.

I'm Committed!



Complete and return the bottom half of the page to your group leader, church coordinator, or *One Book/One Body* local coordinator.

Sign up one person per card. (Participating Bible Studies and youth groups should submit one signed card for each participating member. Families can submit as a group but are encouraged to commit individually.)

☐ 1/1: Gen. 1	☐ 2/11: Ex. 32	☐ 3/23: 1 Sm. 10	☐ 5/3: Neh. 4	☐ 6/13: Prov. 9	☐ 7/24: Zech. 14	☐ 9/3: Acts 7	☐ 10/14: 2 Co. 8	☐ 11/24: Heb. 1
☐ 1/2: Gen. 3	☐ 2/12: Lev. 16	☐ 3/24: 1 Sm. 15	☐ 5/4: Neh. 5	☐ 6/14: Prov. 31	☐ 7/25: Mal. 3	☐ 9/4: Acts 8	☐ 10/15: 2 Co. 9	☐ 11/25: Heb. 2
☐ 1/3: Gen. 4	☐ 2/13: Num. 13	☐ 3/25: 1 Sm. 16	☐ 5/5: Neh. 6	☐ 6/15: Ecc. 3	☐ 7/26: Mal. 4	☐ 9/5: Acts 9	☐ 10/16: 2 Co. 12	☐ 11/26: Heb. 4
☐ 1/4: Gen. 6	☐ 2/14: Num. 14	☐ 3/26: 1 Sm. 17	☐ 5/6: Neh. 8	☐ 6/16: Ecc. 12	☐ 7/27: Matt. 5	☐ 9/6: Acts 10	☐ 10/17: Gal. 5	☐ 11/27: Heb. 8
☐ 1/5: Gen. 7	☐ 2/15: Deut. 1	☐ 3/27: 2 Sm. 5	☐ 5/7: Neh. 9	☐ 6/17: Song 1	☐ 7/28: Matt. 6	☐ 9/7: Acts 13	☐ 10/18: Gal. 6	☐ 11/28: Heb. 9
☐ 1/6: Gen. 8	☐ 2/16: Deut. 2	☐ 3/28: 2 Sm. 7	☐ 5/8: Esth. 1	☐ 6/18: Is. 6	☐ 7/29: Matt. 7	☐ 9/8: Acts 15	☐ 10/19: Eph. 1	☐ 11/29: Heb. 11
☐ 1/7: Gen. 9	☐ 2/17: Deut. 3	☐ 3/29: 2 Sm. 11	☐ 5/9: Esth. 2	☐ 6/19: Is. 40	☐ 7/30: Matt. 13	☐ 9/9: Acts 16	☐ 10/20: Eph. 2	☐ 11/30: Heb. 12
☐ 1/8: Gen. 11	☐ 2/18: Deut. 4	☐ 3/30: 2 Sm. 12	☐ 5/10: Esth. 3	☐ 6/20: Is. 53	☐ 7/31: Matt. 17	☐ 9/10: Acts 17	☐ 10/21: Eph. 3	☐ 12/1: Heb. 13
☐ 1/9: Gen. 12	☐ 2/19: Deut. 5	☐ 3/31: 1 Ki. 1	☐ 5/11: Esth. 4	☐ 6/21: Is. 55	☐ 8/1: Matt. 21	☐ 9/11: Acts 18	☐ 10/22: Eph. 4	☐ 12/2: James 1
☐ 1/10: Gen. 15	☐ 2/20: Deut. 6	☐ 4/1: 1 Ki. 2	☐ 5/12: Esth. 5	☐ 6/22: Is. 61	☐ 8/2: Matt. 24	☐ 9/12: Acts 21	☐ 10/23: Eph. 5	☐ 12/3: James 2
☐ 1/11: Gen. 18	☐ 2/21: Deut. 7	☐ 4/2: 1 Ki. 3	☐ 5/13: Esth. 6	☐ 6/23: Jer. 18	☐ 8/3: Matt. 25	☐ 9/13: Acts 22	☐ 10/24: Eph. 6	☐ 12/4: James 3
☐ 1/12: Gen. 21	☐ 2/22: Deut. 8	☐ 4/3: 1 Ki. 8	☐ 5/14: Esth. 7	☐ 6/24: Jer. 19	☐ 8/4: Matt. 26	☐ 9/14: Acts 23	☐ 10/25: Phil. 1	☐ 12/5: James 4
☐ 1/13: Gen. 22	☐ 2/23: Deut. 27	☐ 4/4: 1 Ki. 9	☐ 5/15: Esth. 8	☐ 6/25: Jer. 31	☐ 8/5: Matt. 27	☐ 9/15: Acts 24	☐ 10/26: Phil. 2	☐ 12/6: James 5
☐ 1/14: Gen. 24	☐ 2/24: Deut. 28	☐ 4/5: 1 Ki. 10	☐ 5/16: Esth. 9	☐ 6/26: Lam. 3	☐ 8/6: Matt. 28	☐ 9/16: Acts 25	☐ 10/27: Phil. 3	☐ 12/7: 1 Pe. 1
☐ 1/15: Gen. 27	☐ 2/25: Deut. 29	☐ 4/6: 1 Ki. 11	☐ 5/17: Job 1	☐ 6/27: Ezek. 1	☐ 8/7: Mark 6	☐ 9/17: Acts 26	☐ 10/28: Phil. 4	☐ 12/8: 1 Pe. 2
☐ 1/16: Gen. 28	☐ 2/26: Deut. 30	☐ 4/7: 1 Ki. 12	☐ 5/18: Job 2	☐ 6/28: Ezek. 37	☐ 8/8: Mark 8	☐ 9/18: Acts 27	☐ 10/29: Col. 1	☐ 12/9: 1 Pe. 3
☐ 1/17: Gen. 37	☐ 2/27: Deut. 32	☐ 4/8: 1 Ki. 17	☐ 5/19: Job 38	☐ 6/29: Dan. 1	☐ 8/9: Luke 1	☐ 9/19: Acts 28	☐ 10/30: Col. 2	☐ 12/10: 1 Pe. 4
☐ 1/18: Gen. 39	☐ 2/28: Deut. 34	☐ 4/9: 1 Ki. 18	☐ 5/20: Job 39	☐ 6/30: Dan. 2	☐ 8/10: Luke 2	☐ 9/20: Rom. 1	☐ 10/31: Col. 3	☐ 12/11: 1 Pe. 5
☐ 1/19: Gen. 40	☐ 2/29: rest	☐ 4/10: 1 Ki. 19	☐ 5/21: Job 40	☐ 7/1: Dan. 3	☐ 8/11: Luke 4	☐ 9/21: Rom. 2	☐ 11/1: Col. 4	☐ 12/12: 2 Pe. 1
☐ 1/20: Gen. 41	☐ 3/1: Josh. 1	☐ 4/11: 2 Ki. 1	☐ 5/22: Job 41	☐ 7/2: Dan. 4	☐ 8/12: Luke 7	☐ 9/22: Rom. 3	☐ 11/2: 1 Thes. 1	☐ 12/13: 2 Pe. 2
☐ 1/21: Gen. 42	☐ 3/2: Josh. 2	☐ 4/12: 2 Ki. 2	☐ 5/23: Job 42	☐ 7/3: Dan. 5	☐ 8/13: Luke 15	☐ 9/23: Rom. 4	☐ 11/3: 1 Thes. 2	☐ 12/14: 2 Pe. 3
☐ 1/22: Gen. 43	☐ 3/3: Josh. 3	☐ 4/13: 2 Ki. 4	☐ 5/24: Ps. 1	☐ 7/4: Dan. 6	☐ 8/14: Luke 16	☐ 9/24: Rom. 5	☐ 11/4: 1 Thes. 3	☐ 12/15: 1 Jn. 1
☐ 1/23: Gen. 44	☐ 3/4: Josh. 4	☐ 4/14: 2 Ki. 5	☐ 5/25: Ps. 19	☐ 7/5: Dan. 9	☐ 8/15: Luke 18	☐ 9/25: Rom. 6	☐ 11/5: 1 Thes. 4	☐ 12/16: 1 Jn. 2
☐ 1/24: Gen. 45	☐ 3/5: Josh. 6	☐ 4/15: 2 Ki. 6	☐ 5/26: Ps. 23	☐ 7/6: Hosea 4	☐ 8/16: Luke 19	☐ 9/26: Rom. 7	☐ 11/6: 1 Thes. 5	☐ 12/17: 1 Jn. 3
☐ 1/25: Gen. 50	☐ 3/6: Josh. 23	☐ 4/16: 2 Ki. 7	☐ 5/27: Ps. 37	☐ 7/7: Hosea 14	☐ 8/17: Luke 20	☐ 9/27: Rom. 8	☐ 11/7: 2 Thes. 1	☐ 12/18: 1 Jn. 4
☐ 1/26: Gen. 1	☐ 3/7: Josh. 24	☐ 4/17: 2 Ki. 8	☐ 5/28: Ps. 90	☐ 7/8: Joel 2	☐ 8/18: Luke 24	☐ 9/28: Rom. 12	☐ 11/8: 2 Thes. 2	☐ 12/19: 1 Jn. 5
☐ 1/27: Ex. 2	☐ 3/8: Jud. 2	☐ 4/18: 2 Ki. 18	☐ 5/29: Ps. 100	☐ 7/9: Amos 1	☐ 8/19: John 1	☐ 9/29: Rom. 13	☐ 11/9: 2 Thes. 3	☐ 12/20: 2 John
☐ 1/28: Ex. 3	☐ 3/9: Jud. 6	☐ 4/19: 2 Ki. 19	☐ 5/30: Ps. 103	☐ 7/10: Amos 2	☐ 8/20: John 3	☐ 9/30: Rom. 14	☐ 11/10: 1 Tim. 1	☐ 12/21: 3 John
☐ 1/29: Ex. 4	☐ 3/10: Jud. 7	☐ 4/20: 2 Ki. 20	☐ 5/31: Ps. 104	☐ 7/11: Amos 9	☐ 8/21: John 4	☐ 10/1: Rom. 15	☐ 11/11: 1 Tim. 2	☐ 12/22: Jude
☐ 1/30: Ex. 5	☐ 3/11: Jud. 14	☐ 4/21: 2 Ki. 25	☐ 6/1: Ps. 105	☐ 7/12: Obad.	☐ 8/22: John 6	☐ 10/2: 1 Co. 1	☐ 11/12: 1 Tim. 3	☐ 12/23: Rev. 1
☐ 1/31: Ex. 6	☐ 3/12: Jud. 15	☐ 4/22: 1 Chr. 17	☐ 6/2: Ps. 106	☐ 7/13: Jonah 1	☐ 8/23: John 8	☐ 10/3: 1 Co. 2	☐ 11/13: 1 Tim. 4	☐ 12/24: Rev. 2
☐ 2/1: Ex. 7	☐ 3/13: Jud. 16	☐ 4/23: 1 Chr. 29	☐ 6/3: Ps. 107	☐ 7/14: Jonah 2	☐ 8/24: John 10	☐ 10/4: 1 Co. 3	☐ 11/14: 1 Tim. 5	☐ 12/25: Rev. 3
☐ 2/2: Ex. 8	☐ 3/14: Ruth 1	☐ 4/24: 2 Chr. 34	☐ 6/4: Ps. 145	☐ 7/15: Jonah 3	☐ 8/25: John 13	☐ 10/5: 1 Co. 6	☐ 11/15: 1 Tim. 6	☐ 12/26: Rev. 4
☐ 2/3: Ex. 9	☐ 3/15: Ruth 2	☐ 4/25: 2 Chr. 35	☐ 6/5: Prov. 1	☐ 7/16: Jonah 4	☐ 8/26: John 14	☐ 10/6: 1 Co. 7	☐ 11/16: 2 Tim. 1	☐ 12/27: Rev. 5
☐ 2/4: Ex. 10	☐ 3/16: Ruth 3	☐ 4/26: Ezra 1	☐ 6/6: Prov. 2	☐ 7/17: Micah 5	☐ 8/27: John 15	☐ 10/7: 1 Co. 8	☐ 11/17: 2 Tim. 2	☐ 12/28: Rev. 19
☐ 2/5: Ex. 11	☐ 3/17: Ruth 4	☐ 4/27: Ezra 3	☐ 6/7: Prov. 3	☐ 7/18: Micah 7	☐ 8/28: John 16	☐ 10/8: 1 Co. 9	☐ 11/18: 2 Tim. 3	☐ 12/29: Rev. 20
☐ 2/6: Ex. 12	☐ 3/18: 1 Sm. 1	☐ 4/28: Ezra 4	☐ 6/8: Prov. 4	☐ 7/19: Nahum 1	☐ 8/29: John 17	☐ 10/9: 1 Co. 13	☐ 11/19: 2 Tim. 4	☐ 12/30: Rev. 21
☐ 2/7: Ex. 13	☐ 3/19: 1 Sm. 2	☐ 4/29: Ezra 5	☐ 6/9: Prov. 5	☐ 7/20: Hab. 3	☐ 8/30: John 20	☐ 10/10: 1 Co. 15	☐ 11/20: Titus 1	☐ 12/31: Rev. 22
☐ 2/8: Ex. 14	☐ 3/20: 1 Sm. 3	☐ 4/30: Ezra 6	☐ 6/10: Prov. 6	☐ 7/21: Zeph. 3	☐ 8/31: John 21	☐ 10/11: 2 Co. 1	☐ 11/21: Titus 2	
☐ 2/9: Ex. 19	☐ 3/21: 1 Sm. 8	☐ 5/1: Neh. 1	☐ 6/11: Prov. 7	☐ 7/22: Hagga 1	☐ 9/1: Acts 1	☐ 10/12: 2 Co. 4	☐ 11/22: Titus 3	
☐ 2/10: Ex. 20	☐ 3/22: 1 Sm. 9	☐ 5/2: Neh. 2	☐ 6/12: Prov. 8	☐ 7/23: Hagga 2	☐ 9/2: Acts 2	☐ 10/13: 2 Co. 5	☐ 11/23: Philemon	

Clip and keep the section above in your Bible as a reminder of your commitment and a way to stay on track!

Complete and return this half of the page to your group leader,
church coordinator, or *One Book/One Body* local coordinator.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Church: _____

Did you complete the *One Book/One Body* study booklet?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, did you complete it

☐ on your own, or ☐ with a group?

Group Leader's Name: _____

I do hereby commit to participating in the Bible-reading campaign. Each day I will try to spend 5–10 minutes on the scheduled reading. I will encourage other participants by my own participation. I'll talk to others about the day's readings whenever opportunities arise. If I fall behind, I understand that by reading TODAY'S chapter, **I'll be right back on track!**

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Witnessed by: _____