

foundations: The CVC Chronological Bible Reading Plan

Reading through the Bible is an important discipline for experiencing personal spiritual revival.

For 2012, we are asking everyone to read through the CVC Chronological Bible Reading Plan. Reading through the same scripture passages as a church family enables us to encourage and teach each other toward greater passion.

The CVC Chronological Bible Reading Plan is available in several different ways:

- You can pick up a CVC Chronological Bible Reading Plan in the CVC foyer at the Information Desk.
- You can link to the Chronological Plan from the CVC web site: www.cvconline.org

We encourage everyone to also read through the entire Bible as God leads. Many one-year Bible reading plans are available on-line.

If you make it through the readings for a day, you can make it through a week. If you can make it through a week, you can make it through a year. And if you make it through a year, at the end of 2012 you won't be looking at the same person in the mirror. *Jesus can ignite you.* And as He ignites more and more of us at CVC in 2012, our church will be ignited, too.

additional spiritual growth tools for 2012

- Are you in a Community or Life Group?
- Books to read:

January / February: Christian Beliefs by Wayne and Elliot Grudem (Read the first 11 chapters.)

March / April: Finding the Favor of God by Ronnie Floyd

May/June: - Radical by David Platt (with Missio Dei Missional Activities in a booklet as a supplement)

July / August: Philippians: The Fellowship of the Gospel by R. Kent Hughes or Life Application Bible Commentary: Philippians, Colossians, & Philemon edited by Grant Osborne

September / October: Christian Beliefs by Wayne and Elliot Grudem (read the last 9 chapters)

November / December: The King has Come: The Real Message of Christmas by James Montgomery Boice

sample spiritual growth plan

Overall Goal: To grow in my love for God, for others, for the world.

Spiritually

- Regular, unhurried time in the Bible, using the CVC Chronological Bible Reading plan and the Loving God journal.
- Regular, unhurried time in prayer using the prayer section of the Loving God Journal, and prayer helps like The Valley Of Vision.
- Seek to more consistently practice the presence of God: abiding in Christ, being filled with the Spirit resulting in greater holiness, joy, and fruitfulness.

Relationally

- Read and pray with my spouse, taking a marriage retreat during the year.
- Spend quality one-on-one time with my children (praying, reading, listening, talking, having fun...)
- Spend quality time with friends and those I mentor, building into their lives as they build into mine.

Intellectually

- Stick with a consistent reading plan: at least two books per month.
- Scripture memory: review and lock in verses already learned and meditate on them while going to sleep.
- Listen to one sermon a week from leaders like Matt Chandler, Mark Driscoll, John Piper, Tim Keller.

Emotionally

- Ask God's help in gaining more peace, more joy, and more kindness, especially when conflict arises.

Physically

- Exercise 5 out of 7 days – 30 minutes a day.
- Get a physical.
- Eat more healthy (fruits, vegetables)

Missionally

Do more to help solve global issues (water problems, slave trade, etc.) and help raise money and support for those who do.

Reach out to those around me (family, friends, neighbors), serving at least once in a local, national, or global effort.



**What's your game plan
to live 2012 as a
passionate follower of Christ?**

**Developing Your Personal
Spiritual Growth Plan**

Build your life on foundational truths as you deepen your passion for Jesus, the One who is our Cornerstone.

Cuyahoga Valley Church...
...helping people grow to be passionate followers of Christ.

your personal passion

At CVC, we strive to help people grow to be passionate followers of Christ. It's what an ignited life looks like. It looks like this:

Loving God. Loving one another. Loving the world.

current status

Use the following tool to evaluate your personal spiritual health in the above-mentioned 3 areas. Simply grade yourself in light of the following statements [on a scale of 1-10 (10 being highest)].

Loving God

- I attend church services regularly and expectantly.
- I truly seek to experience intimacy with God during both the music and the message.
- I spend time following an organized Bible reading plan.
- I spend time in regular, ongoing, unhurried prayer.
- I am giving generously and sacrificially to my local church.
- My generosity is characterized by priority, percentage, and progressive giving.

Loving one another

- I have become an active and accountable member of CVC.
- I am actively involved in a Community Group.
- I am building a spiritual friendship with an accountability partner.
- I am volunteering in a ministry of the church.
- I am bearing the fruit of the Spirit in my personal relationships (see Galatians 5:22-23).

Loving the world

- I am building relationships with people who do not yet know Christ.
- I serve in local and/or international mission projects.
- I regularly invite unchurched friends to church services and events.
- I am volunteering in a community organization outside my local church.
- I invite people to put their faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior.

Now tally your score. And use the lowest marks to help you develop some strategies to grow.

130-160: ABLAZE Thanks for being an example of an ignited believer. But there's still more of God available for you.

100-129: BURNING BRIGHT You're an example to many, but what's your next move to be even more passionate?

70-99: SMOLDERING It's really time for you to get to be more "on fire".

40-69: NEED A SPARK You are truly in desperate need for personal passion.

0-39: FADING Remember: Faith without works is dead. Do you really have saving faith?

developing a personal plan to build your life on a stronger foundation

We all need to make changes if we are going to experience deeper foundations in 2012. We all need to stop doing some things that limit our passion and to start doing some things that will enhance the possibility of God deepening our lives. We must clearly answer the "who, what, why, when, where, and how" questions when it comes to making changes.

#1: Look at your calendar and schedule an hour to put your plan together. Make an appointment for yourself to be alone with God, maybe in the morning or in the evening.

#2: Spend an hour reflecting and praying. It may be helpful for you to think in these five categories: *spiritual, relational, intellectual, emotional, and physical*. Do an honest self-assessment. Ask God to reveal the answer to this question: What changes do I most need to make in order to experience a life of passion?

12 for 2012: 12 Spiritual growth plan Questions for 2012

1. What do you most regret about last year and what will you do to change things this year?
2. What is the biggest time-waster in your life and what will you do about it this year?

3. If those who know you best gave you one piece of advice, what would they say and what will you do about it?
4. What will you read and memorize in scripture this year?
5. What books, CDs, and podcasts will you learn from this year?
6. What promises (see Isaiah 40-66) do you need to claim/blessings do you need to seek from God in prayer this year? (What is the most humanly impossible thing you will ask God to do this year?)
7. How will you deepen your prayer life this year – crying out for personal, corporate, and community revival?
8. Who most needs your encouragement/mentoring this year and how will you go about doing this for them?
9. What are some changes you will make to improve the quality of your family life this year?
10. How will you live out "Missio Dei", joining God in His mission to bless the broken and heal the hurting so that others will come to know Jesus as Savior and Lord? (For example, implement the "One Year, One Person, One Soul" prayer and outreach strategy.)
11. How will you grow in your generosity to your church and other ministries this year? (Think priority giving – Matthew 6:33; percentage giving – Malachi 3:8-10; and progressive giving – II Peter 3:18).
12. Who will hold you accountable to implement your spiritual growth plan and who will you hold accountable?

#3: Write down your plan. Call them goals. Call them "foundational practices for a passionate life." Call them whatever you want; but be realistic. Don't set the bar so high that you end up discouraged if you should fail.

Once you come up with your plan, write it down. Keep it visible.

Share your plan with your family and with your Community or Life Group. Find an accountability partner. Then beg God to build your foundations deeper in 2012.