

“The Bible in 90 Days” (please link to: <http://biblein90days.org/>)

The Bible in 90 Days: Cover to Cover in 12 Pages a Day was offered to combined Sunday School classes at Hope Mennonite, Wichita, KS in the spring of 2011. Participants gave The Bible in 90 Days an overwhelming positive recommendation and expressed a desire for the class to be offered again at a later date. All agreed that The Bible in 90 Days enriched their faith in Jesus Christ!

One of the reasons Hope Mennonite participants chose to make this commitment was because they previously tried to read the Bible in a year but were unsuccessful and still felt it was important to read the guidebook of their faith. Having an accountability group was instrumental in helping many towards completion.

The Bible in 90 Days is a reading plan, which helps people read the entire Bible – cover to cover – in 90 days. It was developed by Ted Cooper of Houston, TX, when, after being “happily” agnostic for 43 years, he decided to read the entire Bible, cover to cover. His life was forever changed by that experience and he developed this reading curriculum for others to experience it, as well. The Bible in 90 Days is NOT a bible study. It is an experience in reading the Bible through as a story, as one would read a novel. It is a unique experience of seeing God throughout history – and watching the story with God unfold.

If you can read 12 pages a day, you can read through the Bible in only 90 days. In The Bible in 90 Days program, a person reads the bible as a single book – from Genesis to Revelation! You will see the power of the total message of the Bible in new ways, giving you a new perspective on God’s love for you.

What to expect:

- 1) You will be reading the Bible on your own. You can set your own schedule, but plan to read 12 pages a day in order to keep up with the group. In 90 days, you will have accomplished your goal.
- 2) Each meeting will include encouragement, accountability, group discussion and video lessons. The video lessons help to expand on points you might have missed in your reading and are one of the highlights of the course.
- 3) An accountability group. One of the reasons people take this class is because they want a group to hold them accountable. Plenty of people have tried to read the Bible before but have been unsuccessful.

Participants at Hope Mennonite noted the advantages of the program included the accountability, weekly benchmarks, videos, and class discussion. In addition, The Essential Bible Companion book explains the context of each book of the Bible and provides timelines. All felt the retention of the story was better when reading the Bible in 90 days vs. in a year.

Frequently asked questions answered at (please link to: <http://biblein90days.org/frequently-asked-questions-about-the-bible-in-90-days/>)

Quotes from participants at Hope Mennonite, Wichita, KS.

- provided an excellent overview of the sweeping story of Scripture
- allowed me to see familiar passages, hymns, songs, benedictions within their context

- enhanced my understanding of what I hear in worship services. It has made hearing scripture on Sunday morning more alive.
- emphasized how much God desires to be present in our lives
- provided a new perspective on God's love for us
- significantly strengthened my relations with God
- helped me achieve a long-held goal
- learned even more than I thought I knew about Bible stories, events and people
- It is one of the best things I have ever done! I would highly recommend it to anyone!
- It raised a lot of questions for me and it was very helpful to have the videos and group discussions be part of the experience.
- I learned a great deal about reading Bible verses in context. This experience has inspired me to always check the verses before and after regarding a verse. One or two verses rarely tell the whole story!
- Some parts of the Bible were very difficult to read. I experienced a continuum of emotions – fear, anger, comfort, joy, confusion, peace. Now, a year later, it feels like the whole experience got put into a sieve and ultimately, the Holy Spirit gently shook it and filtered out the difficult stuff. What is left is an overriding sense of God's relentless pursuit of us, His children. He wanted us badly – and never gave up on us...no matter how difficult we made it for Him to love us!
- We finished reading shortly before Easter. I will never forget sitting in church on Easter morning looking at the empty cross. I realized then that if I believe in the Trinity, that God Himself died on that cross for us. He was so committed to being in relationship with us that even He was willing to give the ultimate sacrifice.
- I appreciated the experience because of the discipline it required. I knew that, no matter what the day held, I was going to spend 30 minutes or so reading my Bible. It was hard at times to make the time, but I learned not to get behind! ☺ I miss the discipline the experience took. I need to repeat it again sometime.
- Reading the Bible as a story provided overarching themes and also raised many questions for more in-depth study!
- I found using The Bible in 90 Days Bible to be helpful with its divisions. It might have been more difficult using a regular Bible. (The Bible in 90 Days Bible is in a larger font and does not include footnotes. It also includes benchmarks for each day's reading.)
- I hope we will do this again. I think I needed the "peer pressure" to get my reading done every week!

Participants at Hope Mennonite Church highly recommend The Bible in 90 Days to other churches!