

# Bible Reading Plan

Join us in reading the Bible together. The Bible Reading Plan is a way to incorporate reading the Bible into your week. Each day read a passage and take a few moments to reflect. These verses are chosen by our staff and designed to complement the Sunday message.

Reflection questions:  
What does it say?  
What does it mean?  
How can I live this out today?

- John 8:1-11
- 1 John 1:5-10
- Proverbs 28:13
- Ephesians 2:1-5
- Ephesians 2:6-10

Want to go deeper? Check out our discussion questions to engage more with the sermon this week. You can find them at [westwoodcc.org/current-message-series](http://westwoodcc.org/current-message-series)

# Thank you for your generosity in 2019!

## 2019 Giving Statements:

Year to date giving history is available electronically on Westwood Life, our church management software. If you have not yet created a login to Westwood Life, go to [westwoodcc.ccbchurch.com](http://westwoodcc.ccbchurch.com), set up your account and follow the instructions to view and print your giving statement. If you need help accessing your giving records, please e-mail [accounting@westwoodcc.org](mailto:accounting@westwoodcc.org) or call Liz Hetherington at 952-224-7374.

Your giving allows the ministries at Westwood to continue throughout the year. In addition to our giving envelopes, here are some convenient ways you can give a one-time gift or set up recurring giving:

- Online:** A convenient and secure way to give is through our website. You can give a one-time or recurring gift.
- Westwood App:** Text [westwoodapp](http://westwoodapp) to 77977 to get a response with a link to download the app.
- Giving Kiosks:** Small giving kiosks are located on the Chanhassen campus at the Info Spots.
- Text To Give:** Text the keyword "westwoodbsl" or "westwoodchn" to 77977.



...away, and you will look for me, and you will die in your sin. Where I go, you cannot come." This made the Jews ask, "Will he kill himself? Is that why he says, 'Where I go, you cannot come?'" But he continued, "You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I am he, you will indeed die in your sins." "Who are you?" they asked. "Just what I have been telling you from the beginning," Jesus replied. "I have much to say in judgment of you. But he who sent me is trustworthy and what I have heard from him I tell the world." They did not understand that he was telling them about his Father. Jesus said, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he and that I have sent on my own but what I do is what the Father has taught me. But one who loves me is who the Father has not left alone, but I go to where the Father has sent me. Even as he speaks, many believed in him. To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. I know that you are Abraham's descendants. Yet you are looking for a way to kill me, because you have no room for my word. I am telling you what I have seen in the Father's presence, and you are doing what you have heard from your father." "Abraham is our father," they answered. "If you were Abraham's children," said Jesus, "then you would do what Abraham did. As it is, you are looking for a way to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from my Father. So do not blame me, but blame them because they keep their hearts from believing. They could see but do not understand, and they could hear but do not listen. So they will never believe." Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." The Pharisees challenged him, "Here you are, appearing as your own witness; your testimony is not valid." Jesus answered, "Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I come from or where I am going. You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one. But if I do judge, my decisions are true, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me. In your own Law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is true. I am one who testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me." When they asked him, "Where is your father?" Jesus replied, "I do not know me or my Father," Jesus replied, "If you knew me, you would know my Father also." He made these words visible to them.



himself. Jesus said to them, "If God were my Father, you would love me, for I have come here from God. I have not come on my own; God sent me. Why is my language not to you? Because you are unable to believe what I say. You belong to your father the devil, and you want to carry out whatever he desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth; there is no truth in him. When he speaks, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me! Can anyone prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me? Whoever belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not love God." Jesus' Claims About Himself. Jesus said to the Jews, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." The Pharisees challenged him, "Here you are, appearing as your own witness; your testimony is not valid." Jesus answered, "Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I come from or where I am going. You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one. But if I do judge, my decisions are true, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me. In your own Law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is true. I am one who testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me." When they asked him, "Where is your father?" Jesus replied, "I do not know me or my Father," Jesus replied, "If you knew me, you would know my Father also." He made these words visible to them.

...me. I am not seeking glory for myself; there is one who seeks it, and he is the Father. Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word will never see death." At this they exclaimed, "Now we know you are demon-possessed! Abraham and so did the prophets, yet you say that whoever obeys your word will never see death. Are you greater than our father Abraham? He died, and so did the prophets. Who do you think you are?" Jesus replied, "If I glorify myself, my testimony means nothing. My Father, whom you do not know, is the one who glorifies me. Though you do not know him, I know him, for I have seen him and his work." If I said I did not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and testify to his work. My Father, Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; and he was glad because he has seen my work and was glad. "You are not yet fifty years old, and you say, 'I have seen Abraham!'" "Very truly I tell you, I have seen and worshiped him, before Abraham was born, I am!" At this they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds. He went back to the temple grounds and taught there. The Jews gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground. At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. Jesus straightened up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? No one has condemned you?" "No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin." When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." The Pharisees challenged him, "Here you are, appearing as your own witness; your testimony is not valid." Jesus answered, "Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I come from or where I am going. You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one. But if I do judge, my decisions are true, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me. In your own Law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is true. I am one who testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me." When they asked him, "Where is your father?" Jesus replied, "I do not know me or my Father," Jesus replied, "If you knew me, you would know my Father also." He made these words visible to them.



# We're so glad you're here!

**Is this your first time here?** Welcome! Stop by the Info Spot before or after the service. We'd love to meet you, answer any questions you have, and give you a special welcome gift. Or you can text Connect to 952.234.3301. We have great programs for kids and students. If you have young children with you who get restless, we have a Family Room. The ushers can help direct you. For more info on everything happening here, check out [westwoodcc.org](http://westwoodcc.org).

## ONLINE CAMPUS LAUNCHES TODAY

The Online Campus lets you worship with Westwood wherever you are. Brand new features include a chat and prayer. You can share the link with friends on our website.

## WHEN THE HOLIDAYS ARE HARD

Not everyone is filled with joy at Christmas. If your heart is hurting, join us for Surviving the Holidays. You'll find support, encouragement and practical suggestions for getting through (and even enjoying) the Christmas season. Monday, November 25, 7:00–8:30pm, Chanhassen Campus. Register online.

# illuminating wisdom

...but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. <sup>2</sup>At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. <sup>3</sup>The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group <sup>4</sup>and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. <sup>5</sup>In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" <sup>6</sup>They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. <sup>7</sup>When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." <sup>8</sup>Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground. <sup>9</sup>At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. <sup>10</sup>Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" <sup>11</sup>"No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin." John 8:1–11

**Message:** Jesus offers forgiveness because we are guilty not because we are innocent.

### A Woman Caught

John 8:1–5

- What is Jesus doing?
- Who are these "teachers of the law?"
- Who is the woman?

### A Trap Laid

John 8:6–9

- What is the trap set for Jesus?
- What are the Pharisees guilty of?
- Do you need to let go of any stones?

### A Pardon Given

John 8:10–11

### Three Life-Changing Promises

- Your sins can be \_\_\_\_\_.
- You don't need to \_\_\_\_\_ condemnation.
- You have new power to \_\_\_\_\_.

Illuminating Wisdom  
*Total Love, Complete Forgiveness*  
November 10, 2019

1. If you could provide wisdom to your younger self, what would you say and at what age?
2. Wisdom can often come from those who have experiences, know-how and understanding beyond what we have. They can be grandparents, parents, relatives and friends. Who has provided helpful wisdom for you in your life and what have they shared?
3. Wisdom is the ability to make good use of knowledge and the ability to recognize right from wrong. Read **Psalm 111:10, Proverbs 11:2, 1 Corinthians 1:30, James 1:5**. What do you learn from these passages about wisdom?
4. Read **John 8: 1-11**. This is a story about a person who has done wrong and feels real guilt. It is also a story about a group of people who have done something equally wrong, but they feel no guilt at all. The Pharisees were not interested in justice, they are using the woman, to discredit Jesus and to feel better about themselves. They are guilty of **J-MAP**. (judgementalism, moral superiority, arrogance and pride) Discuss how this plays out in our culture (social media and other arenas) and where you see these sins of the spirit creeping into your own life.
5. Sometimes we can see other people's sin, but not our own. This was true of the Pharisees as they encountered the adulterous woman. Where is your sin blind spot? If you can't identify it, do you have a trusted person in your life who can point this out to you?
6. The Pharisees were quick to throw stones at the woman but forgot about their own sin. Do you have stones that you need to let go of today? Are you carrying a stone against someone? It could be a family member, friend, co-worker or colleague. As we carry stones for long periods of time our hearts get cold. Do you need to forgive someone? Discuss as a group.
7. Jesus knew the woman's past and doesn't condemn her but forgives her! Read **Romans 8:1**. Do you need to confess sin and receive the saving forgiveness that Jesus has to offer? Or do you need to start with compassion not condemnation when dealing with the sin of others?

To dig further into the bible with verses surrounding this topic, consider using the **Bible Reading Plan** on the program each week and on our website: <https://www.westwoodcc.org/current-message-series/>