

Reading  
Guide  
#1

the  
lies we buy  
from  
**satan**

July 21 - Sept. 15

"You can't trust God."

"Evolution is a scientific fact."

"Let your conscience be your guide."

"It doesn't matter what you believe,  
just so long as you're sincere."

"Some things you just can't forgive."

"All you've gotta do is believe."

"Church membership is all about you."

"I (the devil) made you do it!"

BIBLE READING

As we study our enemy's lies, it is important that we also study God's truths. The New Testament letters of James, 1 & 2 Peter, 1, 2, 3 John, and Jude were written to first-century Christians to give them a confidence that Jesus really was the promised Messiah, to encourage the believers to hang in there through the dark times they were living in, and to motivate them to live a life that was right and pleasing to God. In other words, everything that our enemy opposes!

With only two chapters scheduled each week, we encourage you to read and reread them. Take your time and really think about what is being communicated to the early Christians. What were their lives like living in a hostile culture? Is it any different for us today in our culture? Make special note of any references to our enemy and his tactics.

☐ July 14-20

James 1-2

☐ July 21-27

James 3-4

☐ July 28-Aug 3

James 5, 1 Peter 1

☐ Aug 4-10

1 Peter 2-3

☐ Aug 11-17

1 Peter 4-5

☐ Aug 18-24

2 Peter 1-2

☐ Aug 25-31

2 Peter 3, 1 John 1

☐ Sept 1-7

1 John 2-3

☐ Sept 8-14

1 John 4-5

☐ Sept 15-21

2 & 3 John, Jude

[The devil] has always  
hated the truth, because  
there is no truth in him.  
When he lies, it is consistent  
with his character;  
for he is a liar  
and the father of lies.

*John 8:44 NLT*

**"YOU CAN'T TRUST GOD."****JULY 21**

Are there some areas of your life that are more difficult than others to trust God with or put in His hands? Circle or write down your own areas.

Marriage	School	Future	Work / Job	Friends
Children	Forgiveness	Health	Finances	Safety

How can the direction and promise found in Proverbs 3:5-6 help you trust God with a difficult area in your life?

*"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."*

Read the following verses and write down as many reasons for trusting God as you can:

Deuteronomy 31:7-8	Psalms 136:1-12	Psalms 146:1-10
Jeremiah 17:5-8	Matthew 6:25-34	

Are there anything you need to put into practice from these verses?

**"EVOLUTION IS A SCIENTIFIC FACT."****JULY 28**

The majority of those who believe in evolution also believe that even if there is a God, He was not involved in the creative process in any way. Read the following verses to see if God's Word agrees:

Genesis 1:1-31	Isaiah 45:12	Hebrews 11:3
Colossians 1:16	John 1:3	Psalms 19:1-2

A logical conclusion from evolution is that if we are an "accidental by-product of nature," that certainly diminishes our value. Instead, the Bible lets us know that we are "wonderfully made." Make note of the phrases in the following verses that speak of your worth and purpose.

Psalms 139:13-16	Jeremiah 1:4-5	Job 33:4
Ephesians 2:10	Isaiah 64:8	Galatians 1:15

When we consider our awesome God, that He is the Creator of everything, it is easy to imagine that He simply can not relate to us. Read Psalm 46 and mark the statements that help reinforce that God cares about us individually and is personally involved with each of our lives.

**"LET YOUR CONSCIENCE BE YOUR GUIDE."****AUG 11**

Below is a short list of temptations that we regularly encounter. Think about a potential reason for justifying and giving in to each temptation.

Cheating	Not working through conflict	Sexual impurity
Gossip	Exaggerating the truth	Financial dishonesty
Envy	Unwillingness to forgive	Other _____

Our enemy wants to keep us focused on what we think is right and keep us from continually checking with the Bible, the Holy Spirit, and wise counsel. Below are some verses that give more insight on each component:

<i>Bible</i>	Psalms 119:9-11, 59-61, 98-100, 105, 165		
<i>Holy Spirit</i>	Acts 16:6-10	Acts 20:22-23	John 16:12-14
<i>Wise Counsel</i>	Proverbs 15:22	2 Chronicles 10:1-11	

Read Proverbs 2. How does it reinforce the importance of the consistent intake of God's Word into our lives so that we will not fall prey to the enemy's lies?

**"... JUST SO LONG AS YOU'RE SINCERE."****AUG 18**

There are two fundamental questions that must be answered. First, *Is Jesus the only Savior?* and second, *Is faith in Jesus necessary for salvation?* Pluralism (the belief that there are many paths to God) answers both questions, 'No.' Inclusivism (the belief that although Jesus accomplished what needed to be done to bring us back to God, salvation is also available by responding to creation or other religions) answers the first question, 'Yes,' and the second one, 'No.' Exclusivism (the belief that Jesus is the only way to salvation and faith in Him is absolutely essential) answer both questions, 'Yes.' Examine the following scriptures for yourself. What do you learn?

*Is Jesus is the Only Savior?*

John 14:6	Acts 4:12	Matthew 1:18
Philippians 2:5-6	Hebrews 4:15	Isaiah 53:4-5
Romans 3:21-22	Romans 4:25	1 Corinthians 15:3-4

*Is Faith in Jesus Necessary?*

John 3:36	Mark 16:16	Luke 24:44-47
Romans 10:1, 9, 13	Acts 10:1-44	Acts 11:15-18