

1 Thessalonians

A 21-Day Bible Reading Plan for New Christians

Purpose: 1 Thessalonians helps new Christians see how the gospel creates a faithful church. Paul encourages young believers to stand firm, grow in holiness, love one another, work faithfully, and live with confident hope in the return of Jesus Christ.

Why Study 1 Thessalonians?

This letter was written to a young church facing pressure, confusion, and spiritual opposition. Paul writes with the heart of a shepherd: thankful for their faith, concerned for their growth, and eager to strengthen their hope in Christ. It is especially helpful for new Christians because it shows what the Christian life looks like in the real world:

- A life changed by the gospel and marked by faith, love, and hope.
- A church family learning to encourage, serve, and shepherd one another.
- A call to personal holiness in a confused and immoral world.
- A steady hope in the resurrection and the coming of the Lord Jesus.

How to Use This Plan

Read the assigned passage slowly. Pray before you read: "Lord, open my eyes to understand Your Word, see Christ clearly, and walk faithfully today." Then use either the Core Observation Questions or the S.O.A.P. Method.

Option 1: Core Observation Questions

- What does this passage teach me about God, Jesus Christ, or the gospel?
- What does this passage teach me about faith, love, hope, holiness, or church life?
- Is there a command to obey, a warning to heed, a promise to trust, or an example to follow?
- What is one truth I need to believe today?
- What is one step of obedience I should take?
- How should I pray in response?

Option 2: The S.O.A.P. Method

- **S - Scripture:** Write down one verse or phrase that stood out.
- **O - Observation:** What does the passage say? What do you learn about God, Christ, the church, holiness, or hope?
- **A - Application:** How should this truth shape your thoughts, choices, relationships, work, or worship today?
- **P - Prayer:** Write a short prayer asking God to help you believe and obey His Word.

Bible Reading Plan for New Christians: 1 Thessalonians

21-Day Reading Plan Through 1 Thessalonians

Day	Passage	Focus
1	1 Thessalonians 1:1-5	The gospel comes in word, power, and conviction
2	1 Thessalonians 1:6-10	Turning to God and waiting for His Son
3	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8	Gentle and sincere gospel ministry
4	1 Thessalonians 2:9-12	Walking worthy of God
5	1 Thessalonians 2:13-16	Receiving the Word as the Word of God
6	1 Thessalonians 2:17-20	Joy in the growth of believers
7	1 Thessalonians 3:1-5	Standing firm under pressure
8	1 Thessalonians 3:6-10	Encouragement through faithful believers
9	1 Thessalonians 3:11-13	Hearts established in holiness
10	1 Thessalonians 4:1-3a	God's will: sanctification
11	1 Thessalonians 4:3b-8	Sexual purity and honoring God
12	1 Thessalonians 4:9-12	Brotherly love and quiet faithfulness
13	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Comfort in the coming of Christ
14	1 Thessalonians 5:1-3	The Day of the Lord will come
15	1 Thessalonians 5:4-11	Children of light living awake
16	1 Thessalonians 5:12-15	Life together in the church
17	1 Thessalonians 5:16-18	Rejoice, pray, and give thanks
18	1 Thessalonians 5:19-22	Discernment and tested teaching
19	1 Thessalonians 5:23-24	God sanctifies and keeps His people
20	1 Thessalonians 5:25-28	Prayer, fellowship, and grace
21	Review: 1:9-10; 4:16-18; 5:23-24	Serve, wait, hope, and trust the faithful God

Weekly Themes for Reflection

Week	Theme	Key Question
Week 1 Days 1-7	The Gospel Creates Faithful Believers	How has the gospel changed what I worship, trust, and pursue?
Week 2 Days 8-14	A Holy Life with Resurrection Hope	Where is God calling me to grow in holiness, love, and hope?
Week 3 Days 15-21	Watchful, Thankful, Church-Family Living	How should the return of Christ shape my daily obedience and church life?

Simple Discipleship Prompts

At the end of each week, talk through these questions with a pastor, parent, mentor, or mature believer:

1. What did you learn about God, Jesus Christ, or the gospel this week?
2. What did you learn about faith, love, hope, holiness, or church life?
3. Where did the passage encourage you?
4. Where did the passage correct or convict you?
5. What worldly habit, fear, or confusion do you need to reject?
6. What is one specific way you can live more faithfully this week?
7. How can someone pray for you?

Pastoral Helps for New Christians

Faith, love, and hope are marks of gospel life. Paul does not describe Christianity as empty religion. Saving faith turns to God, love serves the brethren, and hope waits confidently for Jesus Christ.

Holiness is God's will for every believer. New Christians should learn early that grace does not excuse sin; grace trains believers to walk in a manner pleasing to God.

The return of Christ brings comfort and urgency. Believers grieve with hope, live as children of light, and encourage one another because the Lord Jesus will come again.

A Simple Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus, help me to walk in faith, love, holiness, and hope. Teach me to serve You, love Your church, stand firm under pressure, and wait faithfully for Your coming. Amen.

One-Page Weekly Review Sheet

Use this page at the end of each week for personal reflection, mentoring, or small-group conversation.

Week / Dates: _____
Passages Read: _____
1. One truth about God, Christ, or the gospel I saw this week: _____
2. One truth about faith, love, hope, holiness, or church life: _____
3. One warning, correction, or conviction I need to take seriously: _____
4. One command or example I need to obey: _____
5. One person I should encourage, serve, forgive, or pray for: _____
My next step of obedience: _____
Prayer request for this week: _____
Truth to remember this week: _____