



For the Love of God: A Daily Companion for Discovering the Riches of God's Word, Volume 1

D.A. Carson

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Complete with a daily Bible-reading plan, this devotional is sure to encourage and edify readers as they make their way through God's Word in the course of a year.

For the Love of God: A Daily Companion for Discovering the Riches of God's Word, Volume 1 Details

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From Reader Review For the Love of God: A Daily Companion for Discovering the Riches of God's Word, Volume 1 for online ebook

Andrew Wise says

Great companion to devotional Scripture reading. Contains the M'Cheyne bible-reading year plan. Each day there are 4 chapters, and Carson gives commentary on one of the chapters that focuses on fitting the passage into the history of redemption. The design is also great for families, which is how M'Cheyne originally intended it. (2 chapter in private, 2 chapters with the family).

Tim Casteel says

Daily devotions/commentary from D.A. Carson to read alongside read-through-the-Bible-in-a-year plan. Can't recommend these two volumes highly enough! Transformed my quiet times. Perfect (short!) length to give a little insight to daily Bible reading.

Pam Gowen says

I am not a devotional fan at all but this was a gift and I love it!! Carson is an intelligent man who is able to explain the Bible without compromising hard truth. He has you read one chapter from 4 different books of the Bible every day but then has commentary on just one of the chapters. This way you read the Bible in a year I think. It sounds like a lot of reading but it can easily be done in 30 minutes and I really like reading Old Testament, New Testament, Psalms, and something else.

Wade says

This is one of two volumes where D.A. Carson takes you through the whole Bible in one year (and the Psalms and New Testament twice in that year). He follows the reading plan of Robert Murray M'Cheyne (a very influential Scottish pastor who died at the age of 30 in 1843). There are four different passages to read each day and each day Carson picks one passage to write a one page reflection on. If you've never read through the whole Bible, this is a really great way to do it.

Pam Newman says

These 2 volumes of For the Love of God are the best read through the Bible program I've ever seen! In the introduction Carson says, "If there is something unusual about these comments, it is that I have tried to devote at least some of them to helping the reader keep the big picture of the Bible's "story line" in mind, and to see what relevance this has for our thinking and living." This has been so helpful to me in seeing and

understanding the unity of the Bible.

Laura Anne says

Have loved this daily devotional! Readings are just a page each to accompany two readings from Bible. Not too fluffy but rarely over my head. Looking forward to volume two and finishing the Bible (in closer to three or four years than the one you could take but oh well...)

Jenn says

Read it along with his modified Bible reading plan

Charles says

A nice companion to daily Bible reading.

Bob Jensen says

I thought this book was outstanding. Dr. Carson has written a short, devotional commentary corresponding to the daily schedule from Robert Murray M'Cheyne's bible reading plan. In Carson's own words, "My aim... is to provide edifying comments on some parts of the texts, and thus to encourage readers to reflect further on the biblical passages they are reading." He achieves this nicely. If you are using or planning to use the M'Cheyne plan, this is an invaluable resource.

Mike E. says

I have been a believer since 1987 and over the years I have had various plans for a daily intake of God's Word, the Bible. For the last few years my wife and I have followed the venerable Bible reading plan of Robert Murray M'Cheyne. In this volume Carson writes an insightful and unifying comment on one of the day's readings. For those of you that are married this is the one plan that BOTH my wife and I enjoy. I have found it to be strengthening to both my soul and marriage. I love spending time in the same sections of God's Word that my wife does. We have both found Carson's insights to be profound and applicational. Each page has (1) the date at the top followed by (2) four passages to be read followed by (3) Carson's short unifying comments. M'Cheyne's plan takes the reader through the NT and Psalms twice and the remainder of the OT once.

Dillon says

Very, very helpful companion volume for reading the Bible. This book uses the McCheyne reading plan, which is typically four chapters a day and goes through OT once and NT twice - though there is a two chapter a day version as well (takes two years rather than one). The daily readings are one page each and typically focus on one or two of the passages from the reading plan. I really liked having a few chapters from very different parts of the Bible every day, as before this year I had typically done one chapter or so a day and wouldn't jump from OT to NT that much, unless it was for a Bible study or something. Dr. Carson helpfully references previous days' meditations whenever relevant. It's very helpful to see how everything is linked together, how OT necessitates and predicts the unfolding of the NT and how the latter often references events in the former. The devotional guides I grew up with were more standalone - perhaps containing references to a couple verses with no particular continuity. That's also helpful for each day, but it adds another layer when my daily reading coincides with the devotional material.

Rebecca Young says

This is a a daily reading and a companion to reading the Bible on a daily basis. It is jam-packed with Biblical wisdom, straight from the scriptures. There is so much to gain from this and I am launching another read in 2018. I highly recommend!

David Sarkies says

A rather theological daily devotional

1 December 2012

This is the first of a two volume set that provides a daily Bible reading over the period of a year. The concept that Carson used was a system developed by a Scottish pastor that if followed would enable you to read the entire Bible over the year and the readings (from what I can remember) were two New Testament readings, and Old Testament Reading, and a Psalm. Since I do not have the book in front of me (it is back in Adelaide) I cannot say for sure, but I believe that if you follow the readings you end up reading the New Testament and the Psalms twice and the rest of the Old Testament once.

Carson only writes on one the the passages that is read, though if the passages turn out to be complementary then he will write on both of them. As is standard for some of these reading guides he writes a one page devotional that is generally (but not always) application. The problem is that Carson is a theologian, so he tends to be more esoteric rather than writing something that we could apply to our lives, but then again many Christians actually don't like application because it ends up being too hard. Studying theology is great because it helps us understand who God is and how he died on the cross so that we may be saved, but we hate application because that is all about how we should live (and surprise, surprise, the not having sex before marriage is the easy part, it is the actually loving one another that is hard).

I ended up using this book simply because I needed some guide for a daily reading of the Bible. Now, I have found that having a Bible reading guide is quite helpful because not only does it keep you in the habit of reading the Bible daily, it can also help you navigate your way through the book. I have tried the approach of reading without a guide and I end up discovering that I am really not sure what I actually want to read and then end up not reading it at all.

You may find it funny that a guy like me actually reads the Bible on a daily basis, but hey, I am a Christian, and that is one of those things that enables me to be able to develop my relationship with God. What it does not mean is that I blindly accept everything that the guide says. I ask questions, and I believe that we should always be ready to ask questions and hold our teachers accountable. We also need to be prepared to confront our teachers as well, especially when we believe that they are straying from the truth, or even abusing their position. It is all well and good for people to devote their lives to serving God, but simply getting paid to walk around the city talking to people is not what I consider to be an appropriate use of one's time (I can do that during my lunch break, or even after work).

Some people have suggested that Christian bookshops fly in the face of what Christianity is all about. However as it turns out, I have recently walked into a Christian bookshop and have been applauded at what I have seen. I once scoffed at a friend for suggesting that Christian bookshops are making money off Christ, and I suggested that a worker does deserve his wages, however seeing the amount of rubbish that is being churned out, and the fact that many of these books only trumpeted a rather fundamentalist view of Christianity, my opinion has changed somewhat.

I guess we need to remember to put Christian books back where they really belong, and that is subservient to the Bible. These books are not meant to replace the Bible, but rather assist you in understanding the Bible and being able to work it out for yourself. God is interested in you personally, not as a replication of all the people around you. Further, being able to impress your Christian friends, and being accepted by them is not really what faith in God is all about. It is about a relationship with God, and when you begin to feel that his followers are suggesting that you are not good enough because of something that you do, then maybe you need to turn back to God and understand that he has accepted you the way you are.

Scott Fillmer says

If you are looking for a daily companion read to scripture this is a great for. This is volume one of two, each year I do have the verses in volume one and the corresponding reading provided then move to volume two for the second half. It's just enough to keep you grounded in daily reading, his insights are not always totally relevant at the very moment but I always took away some gem every day. Read one page a day for 365 days with half the scripture and you will read the entire bible in two years (to me the best contemplative pace).

Kevin Vigneault says

Great Companion.

This book puts you on a great reading plan for the Bible and then encourages, clarifies and convicts you through pointing you back to the text and the history surrounding the text.
