

Outline for the first week of Reading through the Bible (Today's Light Bible)

Monday, Sept. 12-Sunday, Sept 18, 2011 (Start at week 75. We will be reading through the New Testament first!)

Monday, Sept 12 Read Matthew 1:1- 2:23

From verse 1 of his Gospel, Matthew portrays Jesus Christ as the Son of David and the Son of Abraham. Jesus of Nazareth fulfills the dozens of prophecies made by God about the Messiah whom He would send to save us. As you read today, watch for additional signals that Jesus is the one to whom all the prophets point.

Tuesday, Sept 13 Read Matthew 3:1-4:25

For four hundred years, the Lords' silence had settled in Israel's ears. Not since the days of Malachi had any prophet spoken. Then the silence was shattered by a single word- not a new word but one very familiar word. Listen for that word as you read.

Wednesday, Sept. 14 Read Matthew 5:1-7:29

If today's reading doesn't make you squirm, at least a little bit, you're not paying attention. The words are familiar, so much so we may be tempted to slide past their meaning. Slow down and think about the truths the Lord Jesus proclaims. (chap. 5) Perhaps you've seen the PBS sitcom, Keeping Up Appearances. That title could easily fit Matthew 6. Can you see how?

Thursday, Sept. 15 Read Matthew 8:1-9:38

Jesus taught with authority, as we have seen (Mt. 7:29). He also lived and served with authority and confidence. Watch for that as you read today.

Friday, Sept 16 Read *Matthew 10:1-11:38*

While some teachers in the church have made Jesus into a "get out of trouble" ticket, Scripture takes just the opposite view. As you read today, notice how a living relationship with our Lord can get us *into* trouble instead.

*Saturday, Sept 17 Read Matthew 12:1-13:58*

*As shepherds of the first century sat in the fields night after night, they played melodies on reed instruments. When such an instrument cracked, it was useless. Likewise a wick that smoldered rather than burning brightly only wasted oil. As you read these word pictures in Matthew 12:20, think about what they show concerning Christ's Kingdom.*

*Sunday, Sept. 18 Read any chapters you did not have to read during the week and reflect on what you read during the week!*

