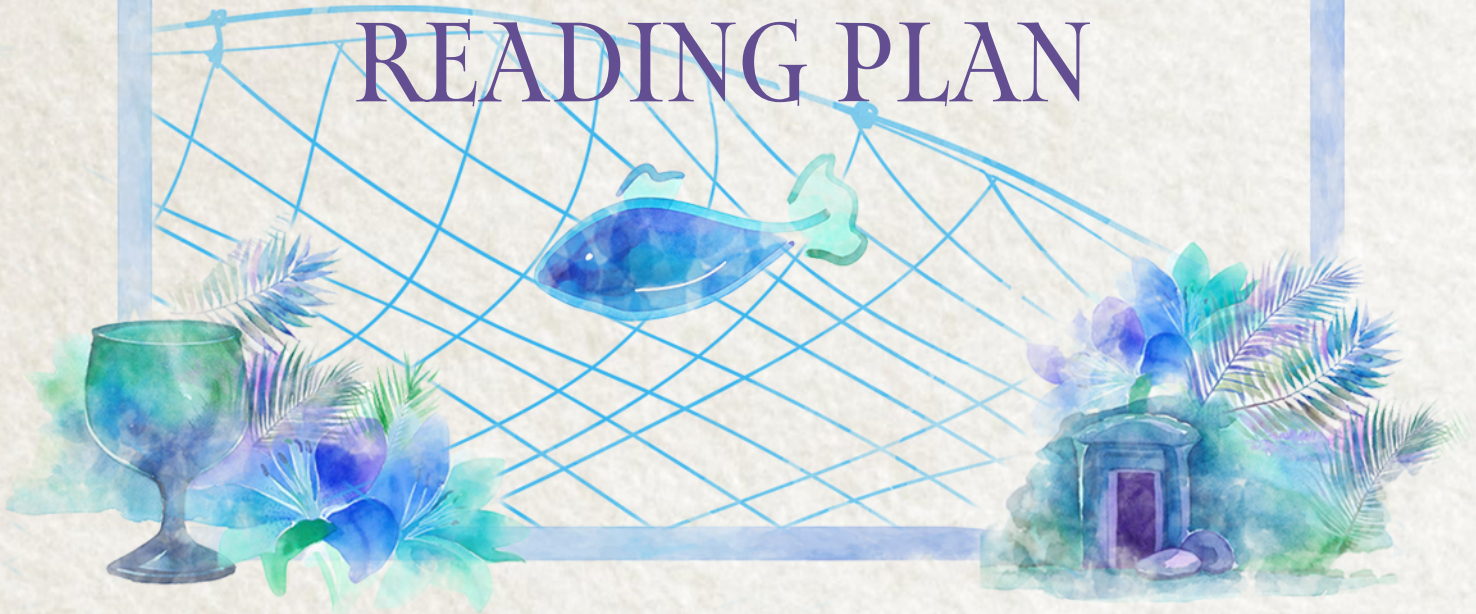




TALES *from a* FISHER MAN

LENTEN BIBLE
READING PLAN



LENTEN BIBLE READING PLAN

Join us this Lent as we explore the life of Peter—one of Jesus' most faithful yet flawed disciples. Through his story, we'll reflect on what it means to be a disciple of Jesus today.

Peter was an ordinary fisherman, yet Jesus called him to something extraordinary. As we walk through Scripture, we will see Peter's highs and lows—his bold faith, his doubts, and his ultimate transformation into a leader of the early church. **In Peter, we see ourselves:** imperfect yet deeply loved and empowered by God.

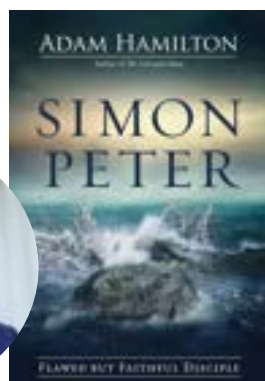
HOW TO USE THIS READING PLAN

Each week, you will engage with:

- **Five daily Scripture readings** that build upon the theme of Sunday's message.
- **A weekly prayer** to help center your heart as you reflect.
- **Reflection questions** to deepen your understanding, whether you are reading alone or discussing with a group.

TIPS FOR YOUR DEVOTIONAL TIME

- Dedicate **15 minutes a day** to reading and reflecting—morning, evening, or whenever it fits in your schedule.
- If your day is packed, fit it in during a lunch break, while waiting for an appointment—just not while driving!
- Consider keeping a journal to write down what stands out to you.
- **Read & reflect with a group** - a Sunday school class, your community groups, or some friends.



Want to go deeper?

Pick up the book, *Simon Peter* by Adam Hamilton, which complements this study and messages are based on.

WEEK 1 - THE CALL OF THE DISCIPLES

This week, we focus on the beginning of Peter's journey following Jesus. God calls ordinary people as they are, transforming them into disciples who will change the world.

DAILY READINGS

Monday: John 1:35-51 – Discipleship means learning from Jesus and living as He did.

Tuesday: Luke 6:39-42 – Disciples lead others by first allowing Jesus to lead them.

Wednesday: Matthew 8:14-17 – Peter's mother-in-law healed, showing Jesus' power to restore.

Thursday: Matthew 8:18-22 – The cost of discipleship; it is not always comfortable.

Friday: John 6:60-69 – Many leave Jesus, but Peter declares, "Lord, where else can we go?"

WEEKLY PRAYER

Lord, I want to follow You. Strengthen my trust and willingness to answer Your call. Shape my heart, time, and influence for Your purpose. Remind me that You are always faithful. Amen.



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Which passage spoke to you the most, and why?
- How did the sermon challenge your understanding of discipleship?
- How does Peter's calling remind you that God uses ordinary people?
- Have you experienced a cost to your discipleship?

WEEK 2 - A HAUL OF FISH

This week, we explore Peter's growing understanding of Jesus' identity and the type of leader Jesus calls His disciples to be.

DAILY READINGS:

Monday: Matthew 16:13-20 – Peter declares Jesus as the Messiah.

Tuesday: Luke 22:24-27 – Jesus teaches that true leadership is found in humility.

Wednesday: Luke 11:1-13 – Jesus teaches His disciples to pray.

Thursday: Mark 10:24-31 – Greatness in God's kingdom differs from the world.

Friday: Luke 18:15-17 – Jesus welcomes children, showing the kind of faith we need.

WEEKLY PRAYER:

Lord, You lead with love and humility. Teach me to follow You with a servant's heart. Shape my prayers, my trust, and my daily walk to reflect Your kingdom. Amen.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

- How do Jesus' teachings on humility and prayer impact your view of discipleship?
- What did you learn from this week's sermon?
- Peter and the disciples left everything to follow Jesus. What might Jesus be calling you to leave behind or to take up in your own journey?
- Did one of the daily readings catch your attention this week?



WEEK 3 - STORMS WITH JESUS

This week, we reflect on how Jesus calms storms—both in nature and in our lives—and empowers His disciples to trust in God’s power.

DAILY READINGS:

Monday: Psalm 77:19; Psalm 107:23-29 – Psalms about God’s power over the sea, which would have been known by disciples and helped them to identify Jesus as God.

Tuesday: Mark 4:35-41 – Jesus calms the storm, calling us to trust Him.

Wednesday: Mark 9:2-13 – The Transfiguration reveals Jesus’ divine nature.

Thursday: Acts 3:1-16 – Peter and John heal a man in Jesus’ name, displaying God’s power and heart.

Friday: Acts 2:1-4, 14-21 – The Holy Spirit comes at Pentecost to empower all disciples.

WEEKLY PRAYER:

Lord, when life’s storms overwhelm me, remind me that You are steady and present. Strengthen my faith to walk boldly, trusting in Your power. Amen.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

- How do you typically respond to life’s storms? How does Jesus’ response to Peter challenge you?
- Do you believe God can work through you like He did through Peter? Why or why not?
- What challenged you or inspired you in this week’s message in this series?



WEEK 4 - THE PARABLES OF JESUS

This week, we listen to the stories of Jesus, which first shaped Peter and Jesus’ first disciple’s understanding of God’s kingdom and their calling to participate in it.

DAILY READINGS:

Monday: Mark 4:21-33 – Parables of the lampstand, growing seeds, and mustard seed.

Tuesday: Matthew 18:21-35 – Peter asks about forgiveness.

Wednesday: Luke 12:35-48 – A parable about being faithful stewards.

Thursday: Luke 18:1-8 – Jesus teaches about persistence in prayer.

Friday: Matthew 15:10-20 – Jesus explains to Peter that God looks at people’s hearts, not external actions.

WEEKLY PRAYER:

Lord, let Your light shine through me. Teach me to forgive, to trust, and to steward what You’ve entrusted to me well. May your kingdom grow in me and through me. Amen.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

- Which of Jesus’ parables speaks to you the most, and why?
- How does Jesus’ teaching on forgiveness challenge you?
- How did the sermon challenge you this week in understanding the Kingdom of God?
- Which Scripture reading spoke most to you? Why?

WEEK 5 - PETER, THE ROCK

This week, we see Peter step fully into his calling, leading the early church with courage and faith, and leaning into being the rock of the church's foundation.

DAILY READINGS

Monday: 1 Peter 2:4-10 – Christians are called to build the church.

Tuesday: Acts 2:1-6, 13-14 – The Holy Spirit fills the disciples at Pentecost.

Wednesday: Acts 2:37-47 – The birth of the early church.

Thursday: Acts 4:1-3, 13, 18-20 – Peter boldly preaches despite persecution.

Friday: Acts 11:1-18 – Peter proclaims God's mission is for all people.



WEEKLY PRAYER

Lord, You are building Your church, and You have called me to be part of it. Fill me with courage to stand firm in faith and share Your love boldly. Amen.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- How does Peter's transformation from fear to faith encourage you?
- What inspired you or challenged you in this week's sermon?
- How can you live out the early church's example of community and devotion?
- Which of these daily readings inspired you the most?

WEEK 6 - PETER'S DENIAL & RESTORATION

This week, we reflect on Peter's journey during Jesus' final days. Despite his deep love for Jesus, Peter struggled with faithfulness in difficult times. Even when he failed, Jesus never abandoned him, reminding us that God's love and grace always invite us back.

DAILY READINGS:

Monday: Mark 8:31-38 – Peter tries to prevent Jesus from suffering.

Tuesday: Matthew 26:31-35 – Jesus warns the disciples of their abandonment.

Wednesday: John 13:1-9 – Jesus washes the disciples' feet; Peter initially resists.

Thursday: John 18:1-12 – Peter reacts violently during Jesus' arrest.

Friday: Luke 22:54-62 – Peter denies knowing Jesus three times.



WEEKLY PRAYER:

Lord, thank you for Peter's story, which shows us that our mistakes don't define us. Even in failure, you call us forward in faith. Help us trust in your love, recognize your mercy, and follow you closely. Amen.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

- How did the sermon challenge or encourage you?
- Peter experiences both failure and faith. How does his story inspire hope when you experience struggles in faith?
- In John 21, Jesus forgives Peter and commands him to "feed my sheep."
What does this mean for you, and how is God calling you to care for others?



HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY, APR 13

ONE Worship Service at 10:30 am

- Celebrate the ministry of Rev. Stan Copeland
- Palm leaves procession with children

Easter Egg Hunt and Celebration at Noon

All are invited for refreshments and fellowship.

TUE, APR 15 AND WED, APR 16 AT NOON

Owen Lecture Series in Shipp Chapel

with Rev. Jim Ozier followed by lunch

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APR 17 AT 7 PM

"The Mystery" in Asbury Hall

GOOD FRIDAY, APR 18 AT 7 PM

- **Good Friday Worship at Walnut Hill**
- **Good Friday Concert in Sanctuary**

FRI, APR 18 AND SAT, APR 19

African Fellowship Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY

7 AM | SUNRISE SERVICE 8, 9:30 & 11 AM | TRADITIONAL
9:30 AM | THRIVE 9:30 AM | DEAF FELLOWSHIP
11 AM | CROSSWALK 11 AM | WALNUT HILL WORSHIP

