

“Breaking the Bible Barrier” (aka “Divide and Conquer. . . *the Bible*”) —**Judy Reamer (judyreamer.com)**

With heartfelt gratitude to the late Philip Green for imparting this divinely inspired message to me so that others may be stimulated and inspired to read their Bible. Judy Reamer

Meditating on Scripture verses and passages—important as a separate practice from this reading plan—is additionally invaluable for the purpose of getting to know and love the Lord. “But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night” Psalm 1:2.

This reading plan helps usher people into seeing the Scriptures in context and to seeing the whole counsel of God in a short amount of time. Please listen to the two CD set first: “Breaking the Bible Barrier” (\$8.00 plus \$2.75 shipping/handling). You may order and pay online at judyreamer.com or email audiopartners@bellsouth.net.

The CD set provides the understanding and application of the message—the whys and hows, plus Judy’s motivating testimony of how she became “hooked by the Book” through Philip Green, a man who had read through the Bible twelve thousand times when she first met him. The following pages do not contain the teaching’s content.

The following list is from a seminar attendee who wrote what she liked and “took home” from the presentation “Breaking the Bible Barrier”:

- The goal is to know God more fully.
- No condemnation.
- No legalism.
- No accountability; it’s just between you and God.
- Letting God modify the plan for you. (Freedom! Grace!)
- The Bible is how God speaks to us. I want to hear from Him for myself.
- Our job is to read. The Holy Spirit brings the understanding.
- Scripture interprets scripture—understanding comes.
- If you read through the Bible once—wonderful! Hardly anyone else has done so.
- Don’t highlight, underline, or write in margins because it will distract and slow you down the next time you read.
- You don’t *have* to read every single word because the mind is looking for ideas and concepts. (Yet, at times, prepositions, etc. may be important to the content.)
- If you get behind, simply begin where you left off.
- You will speed up—the first time through is the slowest.
- You will retain more each time you read through.
- Readers retain twenty percent of what they read; repetition increases retention.
- You don’t need to reread a passage if your mind wanders; you will soon read it again.
- This is not “Bible study” time (study is important though, but most don’t study unless they are in a Bible group). Sixty percent of people disliked school and are adverse to “study.” *But*, everybody reads—even if it is a cereal box.

There is FREEDOM in this way of handling the Bible.

How do you handle an overwhelming task?

You break it into do-able chunks.

How do you read an enormous book?

You make it into smaller books.

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To order the **giant print (not large), double column, soft cover, NIV Bible**, call Biblica (formerly International Bible Society) at 1-800-524-1588. A case of 10 Bibles costs less than ordering a single copy. The cost of one Bible is \$12.99 plus \$4.95 shipping. The item is # 961. **The price and the item number may change with time.** (The only other **giant** print Bible is published by Nelson Publishers—KJV version.)

If you would like to contact Jeanne Miyakawa, 1-404-610-2230 or jmiya211@yahoo.com, she will order and divide the Bible for \$27 plus shipping cost and mail it to you. Otherwise, follow the directions below. If you have watched Judy separate the Bible, you have seen how easy it is to do on your own.

HOW TO DIVIDE A BIBLE INTO FOUR PARTS—

1. Pull the cover off of the Bible. It is a bit easier to tear it off in several pieces rather than pulling the cover off all at once. The binding on the spine will hold the pages together. Pull off any ragged pieces of paper.

2. Open to the New Testament. Bend it backwards gently as far as it will go. Release it and using an Exacto type knife (or very sharp knife, scissors or sharp box cutter) pull the knife slowly, without lifting it up, down the inside seam. Keep the cutter in the seam until you reach the very bottom. You don't have to use much pressure as about the third time, the Bible will separate. Then divide the Old Testament at page 482 and page 964. (The New Testament may be a bit thicker.) If perchance a few pages have fallen off during the cutting, the glue (instruction below) will be able to catch them and keep them lined up with the rest of the pages.

3. Making covers for the sections: Using four file folders (folders having a few center creases are best) place each section of the Bible on the fold of a file and trace around the Bible. Remember to allow for the width of the spine. Cut the tracing a little to the outside of the line (you want to keep the cover almost flush with the Bible) and fold the files around each section, making creases or using the creases in the folder. (If the file folder has only one center crease, you will need to score another crease in order for the folder to go around the spine. This is not difficult.) File folders are inexpensive, so if you cut the folder too small, just redo a cutting.

Then cover the file folders with self-adhesive paper (like Contact brand). Instructions on separate page.

After covering the file folders, using a small amount of Elmer's white glue, squeeze glue down the back of the section's spine—**catching any loose pages at this point**. Run a finger down the spine to smooth the glue. If you apply too much glue to the section spine, the drying process is longer. Have a wet tissue handy to wipe fingers. (A glue gun dries almost on contact so use one only if you are good with it.) Wrap the folder about the Bible section and press it into the folder. Stand the sections on the glued part for 24 hours to dry.

4. Number the four sections on the cover with a permanent magic marker.

A business size card, used as a coach to move your eyes down the page, works well as you go down a column and also works as your bookmark.

You do not have to divide a Bible to read through it with this system. If you read through a small print Bible, read eight to ten pages rather than the suggested fifteen pages daily. Read one section each month. This will enable you to read through three times yearly. Each five pages added to your daily reading will take you through one additional time a year. Keep a record of when you started and when you ended.

You may decide to begin with the New Testament, especially if you're unfamiliar with the Bible. This may help you learn how the flow of the reading works. I preferred beginning with the Old Testament. Determining how many pages to read daily depends on how many times a year you want to read through. (Thirty pages=six times a year, fifteen=three, five=one.) Don't bite off more than you can chew. Do what is realistic for your life. If it suits you better, let God modify what was presented. If you get away from reading, just come on back! It's just like what you would do with any book you put down. Reading daily, though, is the ideal way to read any book.

**“If I do a lifetime of reading the Bible without living, I'll never know if what I read is true.
But, if I do a lifetime of living without the Bible, I'll never know with living—what to do.”**

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Covering file folders with self-adhesive paper.

If you buy laminated file folders *you won't need to cover the four sections* (laminated on the outside, paper inside as the glue holds well to paper, not laminate). If there is only one crease in the folder, you'll need to add a crease by scoring the folder to fold and wrap it around the Bible sections. Or if the Bible publisher changes the width of the Bible spine, you may need to score even a paper file folder *with many creases*, since the creases need to fit around the spine of the section closely.

You may choose not to cover your paper file folders with self-adhesive paper, but the Bible sections won't wear as well.

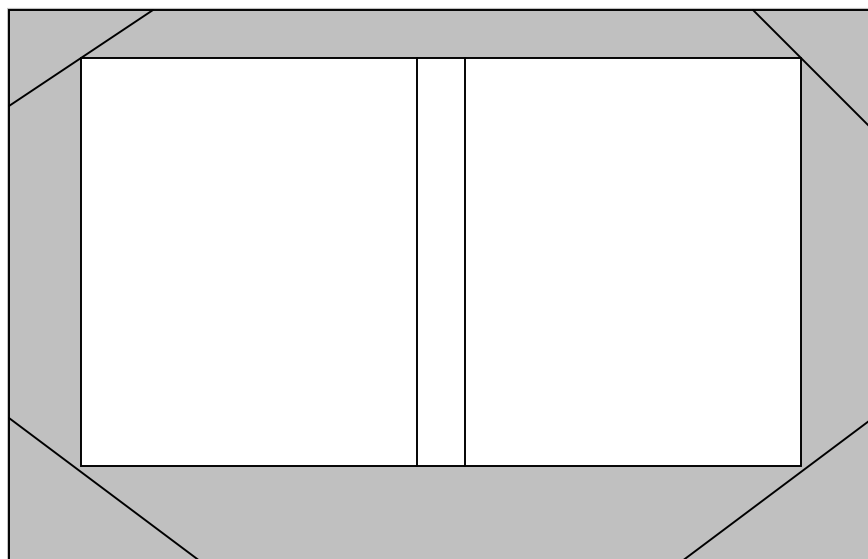
Cut out a 15" by 12" piece of self-adhesive paper, i.e. Contact paper, for each section of the Bible. (The dots or lines on the adhesive paper facilitate cutting.)

Set a piece of adhesive paper on a table with the sticky side up, backing removed. Take the file folder, **holding it closed**, and center the spine on the adhesive paper. Press the spine down on the paper. With the spine now attached to the adhesive, start smoothly pressing first one side, then the other of the folder onto the adhesive paper. If needed, the adhesive paper may be lifted and repositioned when first applied.

Cut the adhesive paper (now attached to the folder) following the pattern below. Cut off the triangular pieces at the four corners. Fold the margins around the file folder.

You may now glue the spine of the Bible section to the file folder cover with Elmer's glue, letting it stand on end for 24 hours, or until dry. Use a small amount of glue, using a finger to smooth it along the binding and to remove excess. Have a wet tissue handy for your fingers. I use business cards to mark my places and use one as a coach to draw eyes down the page.

Self adhesive paper (the gray) sticky side facing up ↓ (The white is the folder.)



Enjoy JUST READING your Bible. To know the heart of the author is why any of us would be reading—to see God's way of dealing with mankind, and to experience Him making the written word come alive to us.

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I wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phones—

- What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets
- What if we turned back to get it if we forgot it
- What if we flipped through it several times a day
- What if we used it to receive messages from the text
- What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it
- What if we gave it to youth as gifts
- What if we used it as we traveled
- What if we used it in case of an emergency

Anonymous

Information from The Evelyn Wood Reading Institute

WHY DO YOU READ SLOWLY?

From the beginning you learn to read by reading aloud. This is the only way a teacher can tell whether you are able to recognize the words and pronounce them. When you became more practiced at reading you were told not to read aloud anymore. "Read silently to yourself," they said.

This insistence on hearing each word as you read restricts you to a reading speed based on how fast you can hear words...not how fast you can see words. Since you can only hear one word at a time you can only read one word at a time. If you learned to read without hearing each word in your mind—only seeing it—you would read much faster. How fast? As fast as you can THINK.

The saddest commentary by ordinary readers is the familiar "I can't seem to concentrate when I read" or "I can't remember anything I've just read". These all too common comments are caused directly by slow reading. **People who read rapidly generally have better concentration and comprehension because their reading speed is keeping pace with their *thinking* speed!**

Once you learn to read by sight only, you will be able to read groups of words, whole ideas with each glance. It is remarkable that only in reading do you limit your eyes to a single symbol. You look at a painting or scene entirely, not left to right, not a section at a time.

If your purpose in reading changes, as in study, then you may choose to break it down if required.

DYNAMIC COMPREHENSION

The average person reads about 250 words per minute. By reading faster you would possess a much wider and more flexible range of reading rates and experience for the first time the thrill of dynamic comprehension. It is like watching a movie.

As Evelyn Wood once said after reading a book set in the rain forests of Brazil, *"It was, oh, so wonderful. I had no direct awareness of reading, but I could see the trees, smell the warm fragrances of the forest, feel the touch of the vines and leaves against my skin, hear those magnificent bird melodies. Reading this new way enables me to project myself into the experience, not just read about it."*

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"The Stranger"

A few months before I was born, my dad met a stranger who was new to our small Tennessee town. From the beginning, Dad was fascinated with this enchanting newcomer, and soon invited him to live with our family.

The stranger was quickly accepted and was around to welcome me into the world a few months later. As I grew up I never questioned his place in our family. In my young mind, each member had a special niche. My brother, Bill, five years my senior, was my example. Fran, my younger sister, gave me an opportunity to play “big brother” and develop the art of teasing. My parents were complementary instructors. Mom taught me to love the word of God, and Dad taught me to obey it.

But the stranger was our storyteller. He could weave the most fascinating tales. Adventures, mysteries and comedies were daily conversations. He could hold our whole family spellbound for hours each evening. If I wanted to know about politics, history, or science, he knew it all. He knew about the past, understood the present, and seemingly could predict the future.

The pictures he could draw were so life-like that I would often laugh or cry as I watched. He was like a friend to the whole family. He took Dad, Bill and me to our first major league baseball game. He was always encouraging us to see the movies and he even made arrangements to introduce us to several movie stars. My brother and I were deeply impressed by John Wayne in particular.

The stranger was an incessant talker. Dad didn't seem to mind, but sometimes Mom would quietly get up—while the rest of us were enthralled with one of his stories of faraway places—go to her room, read her Bible and pray. I wonder now if she ever prayed that the stranger would leave.

You see, my dad ruled our household with certain moral convictions. But this stranger never felt obligated to honor them. Profanity, for example, was not allowed in our house—not from us, from our friends, or adults. Our longtime visitor, however, used occasional four letter words that burned my ears and made Dad squirm. To my knowledge the stranger was never confronted.

My dad was a teetotaler who didn't permit alcohol in his home—not even for cooking. But the stranger felt like we needed exposure and enlightened us to other ways of life. He offered us beer and other alcoholic beverages often. He made cigarettes look tasty, cigars manly, and pipes distinguished. He talked freely (probably too much, too freely) about sex. His comments were sometimes blatant, sometimes suggestive, and generally embarrassing. I know now that my early concepts of the man-woman relationship were influenced by the stranger.

As I look back, I believe it was the grace of God that the stranger did not influence us more. Time after time he opposed the values of my parents. Yet, he was seldom rebuked and never asked to leave.

More than thirty years have passed since the stranger moved in with the young family on Morningside Drive. He is not nearly as intriguing to my Dad as he was in those early years. But if I were to walk into my parents' den today, you would still see him sitting over in a corner, waiting for someone to listen to him talk and watch him draw his pictures.

His name? We called him TV.

Eventually, TV married. We called her Internet.