

## Fourteen ways to read the Bible in Church

1. **Using individuals** in a rota or for special occasions, widely chosen, and well suited to read from the Bible at worship. (See our Guide for reading in public).
2. **Involve the congregation** by having them read alternating verses as a body of people. (The psalms are particularly suitable for this).
3. If the chosen passage is available in dramatised DVD form (eg Matthew (NIV text), John (GNB) and Acts (NIV), **read the passage from a print Bible before watching it on screen**. The visual medium helps reinforce the context and the message.
4. **Pre-print the Scripture reading(s)** on an Order of Service and read from it, so that worshippers can be encouraged to take the passage home and reflect on it.
5. **Read the passage in a dramatic style**, with different people voicing the characters in the story, the narrator and so on. (Books of dramatised readings are available).
6. Instead of the customary two or even one reading at Sunday worship, **have a whole series of readings** at a Service that reflect the glory of creation, the majesty of God and the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.
7. **Project the Scripture passage being used in worship on a screen** so that worshippers may read along with the appointed reader. This has limitations re size / quantity of text when projected).
8. **Read from Church Bibles** (one per person) **together**, to emphasise that the Bible story is for all ages to enjoy and to enable everyone to follow the same text.
9. **Create a programme of special readings and music** for seasons of the year, not just at Christmas or Holy Week but Harvest etc.
10. **Encourage people to meet regularly** (perhaps fortnightly), in an informal setting (church room, home, café) **to read a Bible passage** and share individual reflections.
11. **Provide the Bible** that is normally used by the church **on CD disks**, as a Library facility, so that members can listen to a passage as they drive.
12. **Encourage a church group to copy out a Portion of the Bible text as a church project** (Sunday School, Women's group etc) to experience more from the text by reading it more carefully. (This approach has been used in the past by the Bible Society NI, and by individual churches to mark a special anniversary). The New Testament or a single book can be chosen according to the numbers involved and the project can also be undertaken in a public space such as a shopping centre mall.
13. **Public reading of a Bible book or books at key seasons**, such as Easter, or as a marathon event. This could be within the church or in a suitable public space that is free from vehicular traffic such as an outdoor park.
14. **Read the Bible Online**, wherever you are. Lots of Internet sites carry the Bible text, eg <http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=>