

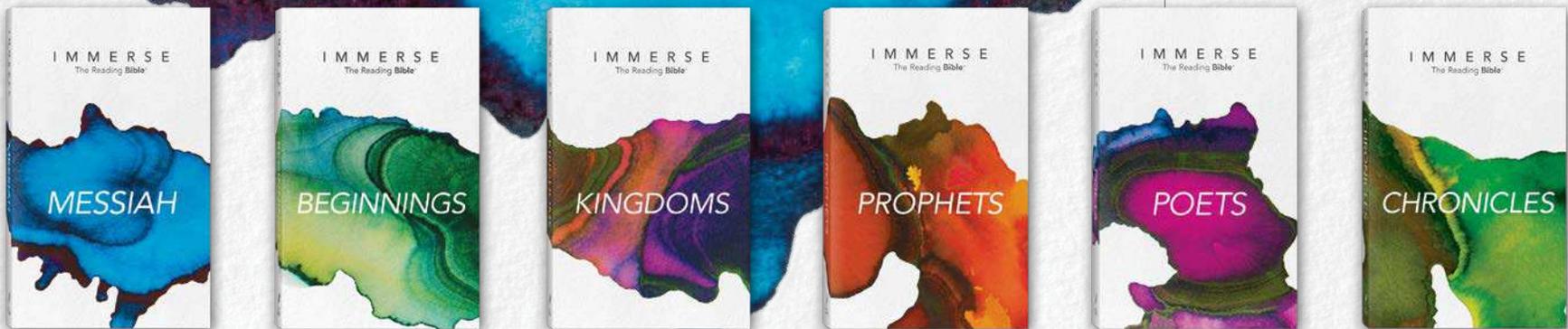
# I M M E R S E

The **Bible** Reading Experience™

## Group Host Guide

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# Welcome to Immerse: The Bible Reading Experience

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Dear Group Host,

Thank you for volunteering to host a group during Immerse: The Bible Reading Experience. As a host, your role will be different from a traditional Bible study leader. Rather than leading the discussion, teaching, or providing the “right answers,” your main responsibility will be to simply facilitate conversation and help the group run smoothly.

This Group Host Guide is designed to help you become more familiar with how Immerse works and provide some best practices for guiding the discussions your group will have during Immerse.

We’re here to help with any questions you might have. Our Frequently Asked Questions page can be found at [ImmerseBible.com/FAQ](http://ImmerseBible.com/FAQ). If you don’t find what you need there, give Sergey Kulik a call at (630)784-5147 or email to [sergeykulik@tyndale.com](mailto:sergeykulik@tyndale.com). He is available Monday through Friday, 8:00-4:30 Central Time. We are praying that your group has a rich and blessed experience diving into God’s Word together.

Sincerely,



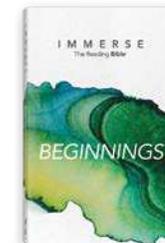
## The Vision for Immerse

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Immerse isn’t designed to be a one-off program. Instead, it’s meant to give your church a framework for regular community immersion in the Scriptures. By reading together twice a year, your church can read through all six volumes—the entire Bible—in three years.

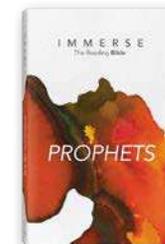
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### Year 1



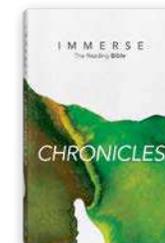
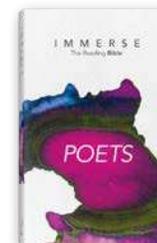
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### Year 2



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### Year 3



## How Immerse Works

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**Who:** Groups consist of 8-12 people from your church community. Immerse is also a great opportunity to invite friends, coworkers, or neighbors who wouldn't normally join a Bible study but are open to an eight-week commitment to read the Bible in a "book club" model. Just try to keep your group under 12 people—it gets difficult to manage after that.



**When:** Meet together once per week, planning to spend 60-90 minutes in discussion. Be sure to honor your group members' time by setting a specific start and end time. When time is up, let people know they are free to leave. Of course, if they want to continue talking then use your judgment to give them options for where to continue the conversation.



**Where:** Even though you are the "host," the meeting doesn't need to take place at your home. We recommend choosing somewhere that is comfortable, quiet, and free of distractions. Snacks and refreshments are great during or after discussion time. Some groups like to share a meal together before discussion.

1

Commit to reading *Immerse: The Reading Bible* as you would any other book, from start to finish. At first it may feel strange to read at length without any notes or chapter breaks, but you'll get used to it. While you read, try to resist the urge to look at any notes or commentaries in other Bibles. Simply read the Bible as a story—you can go back and "dig deep" later.

2

Read the assigned readings each day, which will be around 12 pages. Don't skip the book introductions; they help set the stage for your reading. Many people say reading and listening to the audio version at the same time is helpful. Try to make your reading a part of your daily schedule.

3

As you read, think about the topics or questions that you will use to begin your discussion. There may be parts of the reading that stood out to you, or you can find recommended conversation starters on the Quick Start Guide that comes inside the book. Feel free to make notes in the book or in a separate journal.

4

Meet once a week in groups to talk about what you've read. Treat these gatherings more like a book club than a Bible study. The goal is to have open, honest conversations about your reactions to the week's reading.

# Features of *Immerse: The Reading Bible*

## Natural Structure

The natural literary structures of each book are displayed by appropriate layout, simple line spacing, and graphic markers.

## Maximized Readability

Line length, line height, font size, and spacing have all been thoughtfully crafted for an optimal reading experience.

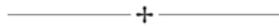
## Chapter and Verse Ranges

Displayed for quick orientation to the Bible text that falls on each page

## Refreshing Reading Experience

Designed to be enjoyed like the bestseller it is.

# 1 CORINTHIANS



This letter is from Paul, chosen by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and from our brother Sosthenes.

I am writing to God's church in Corinth, to you who have been called by God to be his own holy people. He made you holy by means of Christ Jesus, just as he did for all people everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours.

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.

+ + + Alerts you to the book's significant structural transitions



I always thank my God for you and for the gracious gifts he has given you, now that you belong to Christ Jesus. Through him, God has enriched your church in every way—with all of your eloquent words and all of your knowledge. This confirms that what I told you about Christ is true. Now you have every spiritual gift you need as you eagerly wait for the return of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will keep you strong to the end so that you will be free from all blame on the day when our Lord Jesus Christ returns. God will do this, for he is faithful to do what he says, and he has invited you into partnership with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

+ Alerts you to important thematic turning points



I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other. Let there be no divisions in the church. Rather, be of one mind, united in thought and purpose. For some members of Chloe's household have told me about your quarrels, my dear brothers and sisters. Some of you are saying, "I am a follower of Paul." Others are saying, "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Peter," or "I follow our Lord Christ."

Has Christ been divided into factions? Was I, Paul, crucified for you? Were any of you baptized in the name of Paul? Of course not! I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, for now no one can say they were baptized in my name. (Oh yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas, but I don't remember baptizing anyone else.) For Christ didn't send me to baptize, but to preach the Good News—and not with clever speech, for fear that the cross of Christ would lose its power.

The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God. As the Scriptures say,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise  
and discard the intelligence of the intelligent."

So where does this leave the philosophers, the scholars, and the world's brilliant debaters? God has made the wisdom of this world look foolish. Since God in his wisdom saw to it that the world would never know him through human wisdom, he has used our foolish preaching to save those who believe. It is foolish to the Jews, who ask for signs from heaven. And it is foolish to the Greeks, who seek human wisdom. So when we preach that Christ was crucified, the Jews are offended and the Gentiles say it's all nonsense.

But to those called by God to salvation, both Jews and Gentiles, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God. This foolish plan of God is wiser than the wisest of human plans, and God's weakness is stronger than the greatest of human strength.

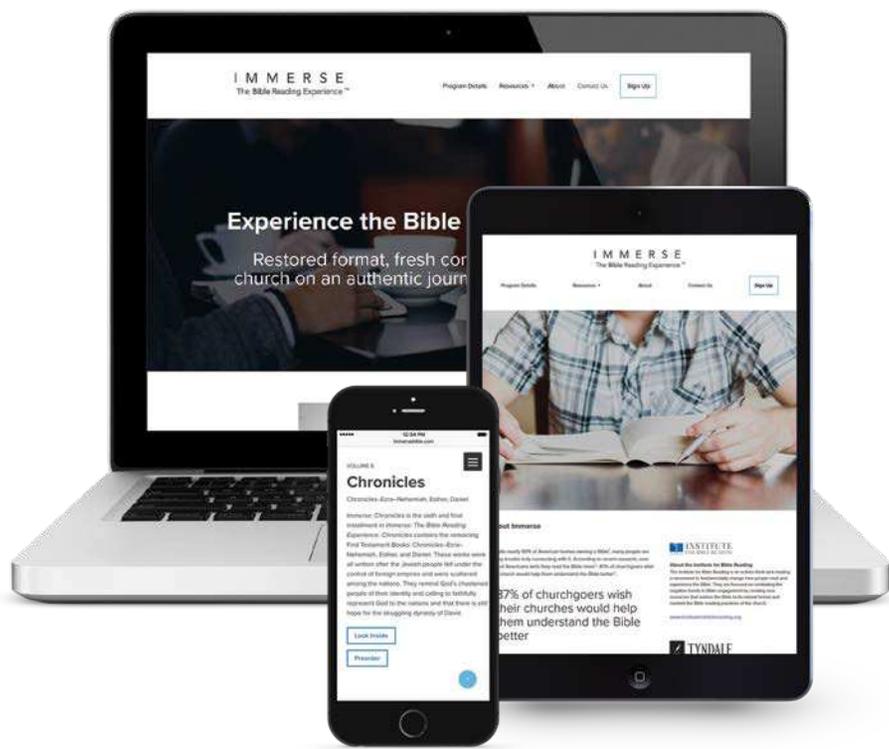
Remember, dear brothers and sisters, that few of you were wise in the world's eyes or powerful or wealthy when God called you. Instead, God chose things the world considers foolish in order to shame those who think they are wise. And he chose things that are powerless to shame those who are powerful. God chose things despised by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important. As a result, no one can ever boast in the presence of God.

God has united you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made him to be wisdom itself. Christ made us right with God; he made us pure and holy, and he freed us from sin. Therefore, as the Scriptures say, "If you want to boast, boast only about the LORD."

When I first came to you, dear brothers and sisters, I didn't use lofty words and impressive wisdom to tell you God's secret plan. For I decided that while I was with you I would forget everything except Jesus Christ, the one who was crucified. I came to you in weakness—timid and trembling. And my message and my preaching were very plain. Rather than

## Support Tools to Enhance Your Immerse Experience

The Immerse experience involves far more than just reading a series of books. Various support components have been developed to enhance your community reading experience. These resources are included at no additional charge. And as resources are updated or added, your church will be given immediate access to them, allowing you to provide the most up-to-date tools and information to your community.



## Current Resources Available Online at ImmerseBible.com

- 1 Custom Audio Bible**  
Full audio recording that follows the natural literary breaks found in *Immerse: The Reading Bible*.
- 2 Weekly Videos**  
A 2-3 minute “trailer” highlighting what to expect and look for in the following week’s reading.
- 3 Pastor’s Guide**  
Guide to help pastors implement Immerse: The Bible Reading Experience in their church.
- 4 Group Host Guide**  
Guide for facilitating discussion during weekly group meetings.
- 5 Family Guide**  
Abridged reading for kids with custom discussion questions so your whole family can participate in Immerse.
- 6 Quick Start Guide**  
Guide for participants, delivered as a bookmark within each book (also downloadable). One side gives the reading plan and helpful discussion starters; the opposite side provides other excellent tips for getting the most out of your reading experience.
- 7 Graphic Kit**  
For use in church programs, PowerPoint slides, etc.

### eBook Version

Available for purchase for Nook, Kindle, iPad, etc.

## Group Host Best Practices

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- Encourage your group to stick to the reading schedule. There will inevitably be days when they can't find time to read, but they should try not to fall too far behind. If a group member hasn't finished the reading in time for the group discussion, have them skip ahead to the current week rather than trying to catch up. They can always go back later and read what they missed.
- Incorporate prayer into the experience. Each day before reading, group members should pause and pray, asking the Holy Spirit to open their hearts to receive God's word (we've included a sample prayer at the beginning of each Immerse volume). We also encourage you to open each group discussion with prayer.
- Have clearly agreed-upon start and finish times and commit to keeping them.
- Sometimes one of your group members will have something specific they want to talk about at the beginning. If so, great. If not, use the discussion questions on the Quick Start Guide insert to get the conversation started.
- Emphasize respect for others. If you'd like, share these rules for good conversation with your group at the beginning of each meeting:
  1. Don't dominate the conversation.
  2. Listen carefully to others.
  3. Respect others and what they share, even if you disagree.
  4. Try not to interrupt—you will get a chance to speak.
- Some people may want to search for answers on the internet during the discussion. While this can be helpful on occasion, try to keep it from becoming distracting or disruptive. Encourage group members to stay engaged in the conversation; they can look things up later.
- Try to keep the conversation moving. If a question or issue gets to be too difficult, don't get bogged down. Table the topic, contact your pastor for assistance, then come back to it the following week.
- At the end of each discussion show the video trailer for the upcoming week's reading. You can find these on [ImmerseBible.com](http://ImmerseBible.com). These videos are a great way to get your group into the right mindset for what they're about to read.

Share your stories! Tell your pastor and other group leaders about the discussions and discoveries your group has. You can also share stories with other Immerse users around the world at [ImmerseBible.com/ShareYourStory](http://ImmerseBible.com/ShareYourStory).

# Immerse: Messiah Reading Plan

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## Week 1

### Luke

Day 1	pp. A9-12
Day 2	pp. 13-27
Day 3	pp. 28-37
Day 4	pp. 37-47
Day 5	pp. 47-59

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## Week 2

### Acts, 1 & 2 Thessalonians

Day 6	pp. 61-70
Day 7	pp. 70-82
Day 8	pp. 82-94
Day 9	pp. 95-110
Day 10	pp. 111-123

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## Week 3

### 1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Romans

Day 11	pp. 125-135
Day 12	pp. 135-148
Day 13	pp. 149-164
Day 14	pp. 165-175
Day 15	pp. 177-190

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## Week 4

### Romans, Philemon, Colossians, Ephesians, Philippians, 1 Timothy, Titus, 2 Timothy

Day 16	pp. 190-202
Day 17	pp. 203-214
Day 18	pp. 215-224
Day 19	pp. 225-241
Day 20	pp. 243-255

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## Week 5

### Mark, 1 & 2 Peter, Jude

Day 21	pp. 257-268
Day 22	pp. 268-279
Day 23	pp. 279-292
Day 24	pp. 293-301
Day 25	pp. 303-310

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## Week 6

### Matthew

Day 26	pp. 311-324
Day 27	pp. 324-336
Day 28	pp. 337-345
Day 29	pp. 345-358
Day 30	pp. 358-366

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## Week 7

### Hebrews, James, John

Day 31	pp. 367-377
Day 32	pp. 377-387
Day 33	pp. 389-396
Day 34	pp. 397-411
Day 35	pp. 411-423

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## Week 8

### John, 1–3 John, Revelation

Day 36	pp. 424-437
Day 37	pp. 439-452
Day 38	pp. 453-459
Day 39	pp. 460-471
Day 40	pp. 471-482

# Immerse: Beginnings Reading Plan

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**Week 1**      **Genesis**

Day 1      pp. A9-7  
Day 2      pp. 7-16  
Day 3      pp. 16-24  
Day 4      pp. 24-35  
Day 5      pp. 36-45

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**Week 2**      **Genesis**

Day 6      pp. 45-55  
Day 7      pp. 55-61  
Day 8      pp. 61-66  
Day 9      pp. 66-74  
Day 10     pp. 74-81

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**Week 3**      **Exodus**

Day 11     pp. 83-91  
Day 12     pp. 91-100  
Day 13     pp. 100-108  
Day 14     pp. 108-113  
Day 15     pp. 113-122

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**Week 4**      **Exodus**

Day 16     pp. 122-126  
Day 17     pp. 126-133  
Day 18     pp. 133-139  
Day 19     pp. 139-145  
Day 20     pp. 145-149

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**Week 5**      **Leviticus**

Day 21     pp. 151-159  
Day 22     pp. 159-169  
Day 23     pp. 169-179  
Day 24     pp. 179-188  
Day 25     pp. 188-199

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**Week 6**      **Numbers**

Day 26     pp. 201-210  
Day 27     pp. 210-221  
Day 28     pp. 221-229  
Day 29     pp. 229-238  
Day 30     pp. 238-248

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**Week 7**      **Numbers, Deuteronomy**

Day 31     pp. 248-259  
Day 32     pp. 259-269  
Day 33     pp. 271-279  
Day 34     pp. 279-287  
Day 35     pp. 287-295

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**Week 8**      **Deuteronomy**

Day 36     pp. 295-302  
Day 37     pp. 302-310  
Day 38     pp. 310-315  
Day 39     pp. 315-323  
Day 40     pp. 324-327

# Immerse: Kingdoms Reading Plan

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**Week 1**      **Joshua**  
Day 1      pp. A9-4  
Day 2      pp. 4-10  
Day 3      pp. 10-19  
Day 4      pp. 19-32  
Day 5      pp. 32-39

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**Week 2**      **Judges, Ruth**  
Day 6      pp. 41-52  
Day 7      pp. 52-61  
Day 8      pp. 61-72  
Day 9      pp. 72-80  
Day 10      pp. 81-88

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**Week 3**      **Samuel–Kings**  
Day 11      pp. 89-95  
Day 12      pp. 96-100  
Day 13      pp. 100-106  
Day 14      pp. 106-114  
Day 15      pp. 114-122

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**Week 4**      **Samuel–Kings**  
Day 16      pp. 122-129  
Day 17      pp. 129-135  
Day 18      pp. 135-142  
Day 19      pp. 143-147  
Day 20      pp. 147-153

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**Week 5**      **Samuel–Kings**  
Day 21      pp. 153-159  
Day 22      pp. 159-166  
Day 23      pp. 166-176  
Day 24      pp. 176-180  
Day 25      pp. 180-183

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**Week 6**      **Samuel–Kings**  
Day 26      pp. 183-189  
Day 27      pp. 189-195  
Day 28      pp. 195-200  
Day 29      pp. 200-205  
Day 30      pp. 205-210

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**Week 7**      **Samuel–Kings**  
Day 31      pp. 210-215  
Day 32      pp. 215-222  
Day 33      pp. 222-228  
Day 34      pp. 228-237  
Day 35      pp. 237-242

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**Week 8**      **Samuel–Kings**  
Day 36      pp. 242-248  
Day 37      pp. 248-255  
Day 38      pp. 255-260  
Day 39      pp. 260-267  
Day 40      pp. 267-271

# Immerse: Prophets Reading Plan

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## Week 1

### Amos, Hosea, Micah

Day 1	pp. A9-6
Day 2	pp. 6-17
Day 3	pp. 19-32
Day 4	pp. 32-39
Day 5	pp. 41-54

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## Week 2

### Isaiah

Day 6	pp. 55-67
Day 7	pp. 67-78
Day 8	pp. 78-89
Day 9	pp. 89-101
Day 10	pp. 101-113

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## Week 3

### Isaiah

Day 11	pp. 114-123
Day 12	pp. 123-135
Day 13	pp. 135-148
Day 14	pp. 148-162
Day 15	pp. 162-175

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## Week 4

### Zephaniah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Jeremiah

Day 16	pp. 177-191
Day 17	pp. 193-200
Day 18	pp. 201-215
Day 19	pp. 215-228
Day 20	pp. 228-242

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## Week 5

### Jeremiah

Day 21	pp. 242-254
Day 22	pp. 254-268
Day 23	pp. 268-284
Day 24	pp. 284-297
Day 25	pp. 297-310

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## Week 6

### Obadiah, Ezekiel

Day 26	pp. 311-315
Day 27	pp. 317-327
Day 28	pp. 327-336
Day 29	pp. 336-346
Day 30	pp. 346-355

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## Week 7

### Ezekiel

Day 31	pp. 355-364
Day 32	pp. 364-371
Day 33	pp. 371-378
Day 34	pp. 378-388
Day 35	pp. 388-396

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## Week 8

### Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi, Joel, Jonah

Day 36	pp. 397-401
Day 37	pp. 403-419
Day 38	pp. 421-427
Day 39	pp. 429-438
Day 40	pp. 439-444

# Immerse: Poets Reading Plan

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## **Week 1 Psalms (Book One)**

Day 1 pp. A9-7  
Day 2 pp. 7-15  
Day 3 pp. 15-25  
Day 4 pp. 25-35  
Day 5 pp. 35-44

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## **Week 2 Lamentations, Psalms (Book Two)**

Day 6 pp. 165-173  
Day 7 pp. 173-180  
Day 8 pp. 45-55  
Day 9 pp. 55-66  
Day 10 pp. 67-77

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## **Week 3 Song of Songs, Psalms (Book Three)**

Day 11 pp. 181-187  
Day 12 pp. 187-194  
Day 13 pp. 78-83  
Day 14 pp. 83-92  
Day 15 pp. 92-99

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## **Week 4 Proverbs**

Day 16 pp. 195-202  
Day 17 pp. 202-211  
Day 18 pp. 211-218  
Day 19 pp. 219-225  
Day 20 pp. 226-233

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## **Week 5 Proverbs, Psalms (Book Four)**

Day 21 pp. 233-243  
Day 22 pp. 243-250  
Day 23 pp. 100-106  
Day 24 pp. 106-114  
Day 25 pp. 114-119

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## **Week 6 Ecclesiastes, Psalms (Book Five)**

Day 26 pp. 251-258  
Day 27 pp. 258-265  
Day 28 pp. 120-130  
Day 29 pp. 130-141  
Day 30 pp. 141-148

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## **Week 7 Psalms (Book Five), Job**

Day 31 pp. 148-155  
Day 32 pp. 155-163  
Day 33 pp. 267-272  
Day 34 pp. 272-282  
Day 35 pp. 282-289

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## **Week 8 Job**

Day 36 pp. 289-295  
Day 37 pp. 295-302  
Day 38 pp. 302-310  
Day 39 pp. 310-319  
Day 40 pp. 319-327

# Immerse: Chronicles Reading Plan

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## **Week 1**      **Chronicles–Ezra–Nehemiah**

Day 1      pp. A9-2  
Day 2      pp. 3-7  
Day 3      pp. 7-12  
Day 4      pp. 12-15  
Day 5      pp. 15-20

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## **Week 2**      **Chronicles–Ezra–Nehemiah**

Day 6      pp. 20-25  
Day 7      pp. 25-29  
Day 8      pp. 29-33  
Day 9      pp. 33-39  
Day 10     pp. 39-43

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## **Week 3**      **Chronicles–Ezra–Nehemiah**

Day 11     pp. 43-49  
Day 12     pp. 49-55  
Day 13     pp. 55-60  
Day 14     pp. 60-62  
Day 15     pp. 63-67

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## **Week 4**      **Chronicles–Ezra–Nehemiah**

Day 16     pp. 67-70  
Day 17     pp. 70-76  
Day 18     pp. 76-80  
Day 19     pp. 80-85  
Day 20     pp. 85-90

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## **Week 5**      **Chronicles–Ezra–Nehemiah**

Day 21     pp. 90-95  
Day 22     pp. 95-101  
Day 23     pp. 101-107  
Day 24     pp. 107-111  
Day 25     pp. 111-115

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## **Week 6**      **Chronicles–Ezra–Nehemiah**

Day 26     pp. 115-120  
Day 27     pp. 120-125  
Day 28     pp. 125-130  
Day 29     pp. 130-136  
Day 30     pp. 136-141

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## **Week 7**      **Esther, Daniel**

Day 31     pp. 143-148  
Day 32     pp. 148-151  
Day 33     pp. 151-155  
Day 34     pp. 157-158  
Day 35     pp. 159-163

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## **Week 8**      **Daniel**

Day 36     pp. 163-164  
Day 37     pp. 165-167  
Day 38     pp. 168-171  
Day 39     pp. 171-177  
Day 40     pp. 177-181