

# THE ESSENTIAL JESUS

## Bible Reading

“No matter what you think about Jesus, there’s no denying He is the most influential person in all of human history,” says writer Whitney Kuniholm, and the inspiration for these carefully selected one hundred passages from the bible. Not only do we get a review of the entire Bible, but we follow the storyline of Jesus as we read through these Essential Jesus scriptures.

First, we will examine who Jesus is, exploring why we need a Savior and what the Old Testament has to say about Jesus long before He was in the manger. Then, we will explore some passages about His birth, ministry, teaching, miracles, death, resurrection, and the early church. Next, we will read the part of His story that is yet to come with His promised return. Finally, we will be faced with the question, “Who is Jesus to you?”

Each week, we will have five passages assigned to read together with the sermon at the end of each relating to the passages. You are invited to join us as we seek to gain a proper understanding of the most influential person in history, Jesus Christ.

### **Week of July 7 Who Is Jesus?**

1. Truth Beyond Facts: John 1:18
2. Living Like Jesus: Philippians 2:1-11
3. It’s All About Jesus: Colossians 1:15-23
4. What Is God Like: Hebrews 1:1-4
5. The Big Church: 1 Peter 2:4-10

### **Week of July 14 The Need for a Savior**

1. It’s Sin! Genesis 3:1-24
2. Stupid Sin: Exodus 32:1-33:6
3. Not Just the Bad Guys: Psalm 14:1-7
4. He’s Against It: Isaiah 59:1-21
5. Ho, Ho, Ho? Amos 5:1-27

### **Week of July 21 Previews of a Savior**

1. Significant Symbols: Exodus 12:1-30
2. True Bread: Exodus 16:1-35
3. The Snakes: Numbers 21:4-9
4. The New Temple: 1 Kings 8:1-21
5. Running on Empty: Jonah 1:1–4:11

### **Week of July 28 Psalms About a Savior**

1. The Case for Christ: Psalm 2:1-12
2. At the Cross: Psalm 22:1-31
3. Deep Waters: Psalm 69:1-36
4. Who’s Talking? Psalm 110:1-7
5. Try to Remember: Psalm 118:1-29

### **Week of August 4 Prophecies About a Savior**

1. Chosen People: Genesis 12:1-9
2. The Good Shepherd: Jeremiah 23:1-9
3. O Little Town of Bethlehem: Micah 5:1-5
4. The Humble King: Zechariah 9:9-17
5. Future Clues: Zechariah 12:1–13:9

### **Week of August 11 More Prophecies About a Savior**

1. God With Us: Isaiah 7:1-25
2. Hope for the Future: Isaiah 9:1-8
3. Chosen Servant: Isaiah 42:1-9
4. Man of Sorrows: Isaiah 52:13–53:12
5. Mission Statement: Isaiah 61:1-11



### **Week of August 18 The Birth of Jesus**

1. Favor with God: Luke 1:26-56
2. Just the Facts: Matthew 1:18-25
3. Blockbuster Truth: Luke 2:1-40
4. Searching for Jesus: Matthew 2:1-23
5. His Father's Son: Luke 2:41-52

### **Week of August 25 The Beginning of Ministry of Jesus**

1. This Is My Son: Matthew 3:1-17
2. Deliver Us from Evil: Luke 4:1-13
3. Who's He Think He Is? Luke 4:14-30
4. With Authority! Luke 4:31-44
5. The Leadership Style of Jesus: Luke 5:1-11

### **Week of September 1 The Sermons of Jesus**

1. The "New" Reality: Matthew 5:1-48
2. Hungry for God: Matthew 6:1-34
3. The Great Communicator: Matthew 7:1-29
4. No More Mr. Nice Guy: Matthew 23:1-39
5. The End: Matthew 24:1-51

### **Week of September 8 The Parables of Jesus**

1. Have Mercy! Luke 10:25-37
2. Rich Toward God: Luke 12:13-21
3. Happy Meal: Luke 14:1-24
4. Sinners Welcome! Luke 15:1-32
5. Uncommon Prayer: Luke 18:1-14

### **Week of September 15 More Parables of Jesus**

1. It's Like...: Matthew 13:1-58
2. The Generous Landowner: Matthew 20: 1-16
3. I Wanna Be Ready: Matthew 25:1-46
4. One Way: John 10:1-18
5. The Vineyard Church: John 15:1-17

### **Week of September 22 The Miracles of Jesus**

1. New Wine: John 2:1-11
2. Fear Factor: Mark 4:35-41
3. Miracle Meal: Matthew 14:13-21
4. Seeing and Believing: Matthew 14:22-33
5. Serious Fruit: Matthew 21: 18-22

### **Week of September 29 More Miracles of Jesus**

1. Lord, I Believe: John 9:1-41
2. Band of Brothers: Luke 5:17-26
3. Scary Story? Mark 5:1-20
4. At His Feet: Mark 5:21-43
5. Resurrection Power: John 11:1-45

### **Week of October 6 The Prayers of Jesus**

1. How Did Jesus Pray? Mark 1:29-39
2. The Joy of Prayer: Luke 10:1-24
3. The School of Prayer: Luke 11:1-13
4. A Defining Prayer: John 17:1-26
5. Pray Hard: Mark 14:32-42

### **Week of October 13 The Hard Sayings of Jesus**

1. Soul Food: John 6:25-71
2. A House Divided: Mark 3:20-35
3. Prayer Guarantee: John 14:1-14
4. Serious Forgiveness: Matthew 18:15-35
5. Get Serious: Mark 8:31-9:1

### **Week of October 20 The Crucifixion of Jesus**

1. Busted! Matthew 26:47-56
2. Kangaroo Court: Matthew 26:57-68
3. Courtyard Debacle: Matthew 26:69-27:10
4. It's All About You, Jesus: Luke 22:66-3:25
5. Remember Me: Luke 23:26-56

### **Week of October 27 The Resurrection of Jesus**

1. Resurrection Thriller: Matthew 28:1-20
2. Gospel Power: Mark 16:1-20
3. The Third Disciple: Luke 24:1-49
4. Follow Me! John 20:1-21:25
5. Fact and Hope: 1 Corinthians 15:1-58

### **Week of November 3 The Early Church of Jesus**

1. A Vision for the Emergent Church: Revelation 1:1-20
2. Unfaithful or Faithful? Revelation 2:1-11
3. Hold On—Until I Come: Revelation 2:12-29
4. The Dead Church: Revelation 3:1-13
5. Lukewarm for God: Revelation 3:14-22

### **Week of November 10 The Second Coming of Jesus**

1. The Greatest Sequel of All Time: Acts 1:1-11
2. If I Should Die Before I Wake: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11
3. Don't Be Alarmed: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12
4. Waiting For...? 2 Peter 3:1-18
5. Only Beginning: Revelation 21:1-22:21

### **Week of November 17 Who is Jesus...To You?**

1. The Rich Do-Gooder: Matthew 19:16-30
2. The Bottom Line: John 3:1-21
3. No More Shame: John 4:1-42
4. Angry Young Man: Acts: 9:1-19
5. The Essentials of Jesus Challenge: Luke 9:18-27