**Daily Bible Reading Schedule – 2014**

Have you ever wondered what it would have been like to read the Old Testament in ancient Israel? Or, read the New Testament in the order that the books were written? Our reading schedules in previous years have followed the order of our English Bibles, the chronological order of Bible events, and the various themes found in the Bible. The 2014 schedule is what we might call a “Historical Reading Plan.”

In the coming year’s daily plan, the order of the Old Testament readings is very similar to Israel's Hebrew Bible. The schedule progresses from the Law to Prophets to Writings. Remember that the books we normally call “History” in the Old Testament were the product of the prophets and were included in that collection.

The New Testament reading plan is based upon the order in which the books were authored. Although the exact order is not explicitly stated in New Testament Scripture, we follow the basic order in which it is thought the books were written. Though we have deviated from that order in a few cases in favor of thematic grouping, we have given the schedule following that basic plan in hope that it may give some insights to your Bible reading.

A greater knowledge of God’s word brings us many benefits. By coming to know God's will through His word, we draw closer to our Lord and His blessings (Jn. 6:44-45). Learning and knowing the word of God brings peace to our soul (Phil. 4:7-9). It brings assurance to the heart of the faithful and obedient servant of God (1 Jn. 3:18-22). It gives food for growth (1 Pet. 2:2). It challenges, pricks and corrects our heart (Heb. 4:12). It provides guidance for our lives (Psa. 119:105, 130; Prov. 6:23). It gives hope in times of trial (1 Pet. 1:3-12; 3:14-17). It produces a joy-filled life (1 Jn. 1:4; Jer. 15:16). It is God's power to bring us to salvation (Rom. 1:16-17). Failure to study and know the Bible deprives us of these blessings and many more. May the Lord bless us in our reading and understanding of His word.