

## **Transformed Lives in Bold Bible Read-Throughs**

How can we take up Christ’s call to his disciples to “abide in my word” and apply it in ministry today. And if we do take his call seriously, what difference will it make? Here we present bold Bible reading—reading through the Bible in as few as six weeks and as many as sixteen—as a means to nurture the fruit Jesus invites and expects. We will consider the underlying theology as well as the practice of mentoring through Bible reading partnerships.

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### **I. A Narrative of personal discovery**

#### **A. Conversion through Bible-reading**

1. An appetite for meaning
2. Heartfelt questions for God
3. Patience and reward

#### **B. The power of a Bible mentor—Arthur & Psalm 34:8**

1. A man after God’s own heart
2. A two-year guided tour of the Bible landscape

#### **C. The captivating heart of a bold Bible reader—Sam from Scotland**

1. Bible reading for the sake of relationship
2. A pace defined by desire rather than duty—2-3 times a year
3. A life saturated with Bible awareness and applications

**D. The impact of my first six-week Bible read through**

1. God's evident and captivating personality
2. Themes and values found in the flow of relational reading

**II. The transferable and transformational force of bold Bible reading**

**A. An accidental vision implant—John's life change**

1. An unfocused & vulnerable faith confronted
2. A new devotion & delight confronts others

**B. An intentional vision implant—Waymon's life change**

1. Reading separately during a week
2. Reading freely rather than by a schedule
3. Reading with an end-date in view

4. Shared verses each week without commentary or dialog
5. A strictly voluntary approach with no shame in failing

**C. An ongoing report on bold Bible read through**

1. A worldwide community of Bible readers
2. The KISS method and accessibility in read throughs
3. The companionship of hearts in Bible reading

**III. A theology of bold Bible reading: God's word engaged in life**

**A. The role of God's word**

1. God in Christ: the living word (John 1)
2. Christ in the world: the spoken word (John 8)
3. Christians and the church: the displayed word (John 15 & 17)

**B. The transformative power of God's word**

1. Word as a spiritual cleanser (Gen. 3, John 8, 2 Tim. 3, Eph. 5)
2. The word and God's affective love (John 17)