

# 'From Where We Stand'

Over the coming months we will be focussing on the statement of faith that we put together and adopted as a church a couple of years ago.

*Each week we will focus on a different part of the statement through this reading plan.*

Hebrews 12:3 starts with the phrase 'Consider him', some of the translations say 'Consider fully'. The meaning of this word in the original language is "reason up to a conclusion by moving through the needed thought-process" (analysis); to "add things up," reckoning from "premise to conclusion" especially by repeated reflection that advance up the "levels of truth." (<https://biblehub.com/greek/357.htm>)

The hope for this time is that we would use this as an opportunity to 'consider fully', to meditate on, some of the fundamental aspects of our faith. I want to really encourage us all, as we work our way through the different headings, to be intentional in asking ourselves what we really believe, what the Holy Spirit wants to reveal to us, and what difference could this make to our life and our faith.

It is also an opportunity for us all to think through what we might say about each point as we seek to share our faith with those who don't yet know Christ.

There are of course so many passages relating to each point that are not included in this reading plan. You may want to read around each point for yourself, to find other passages relating to that point.



**God** is the Creator of the universe, and He is loving, holy, good and just in His nature in all His actions towards creation.

Monday	Genesis 1 <a href="#">Creator God</a>
Tuesday	Numbers 23:13-26 <a href="#">God does what He says</a>
Wednesday	Psalms 90 <a href="#">From everlasting to everlasting</a>
Thursday	Isaiah 6 <a href="#">Holy</a>
Friday	Matthew 7:7-12 <a href="#">Generous</a>
Saturday	John 3:1-21 <a href="#">Spirit and truth</a>
Sunday	1 John 4:7-21 <a href="#">Love</a>

**People** are created in God's image, which means everyone is valued equally and holds a really special place in God's heart. When people chose to turn their backs on Him (to sin) the relationship that God intended with humanity was fractured / broken and a way back to God was needed – saving them from a life and an eternity apart from Him.

Monday	Genesis 2 and 3 <a href="#">Created with purpose</a>
Tuesday	Psalms 8 <a href="#">Low yet lifted</a>
Wednesday	Psalms 139 <a href="#">Known</a>
Thursday	Matthew 10:29-31 <a href="#">Cared for</a>
Friday	Romans 5:1-21 <a href="#">Sinners brought near</a>
Saturday	2 Corinthians 4:1-18 <a href="#">Created to shine</a>
Sunday	2 Corinthians 5:1-10 <a href="#">Awaiting a new body</a>

**Jesus Christ** is the Son of God (an integral part of who God is). He is fully God and fully man and willingly became human. As a human he showed us what God is like and what a perfect relationship with God, and the world looks like.

Monday	John 1:1-18 <a href="#">The word made flesh</a>
Tuesday	Isaiah 8:19 - 9:7 <a href="#">The child born to rule</a>
Wednesday	John 10 <a href="#">One with the Father</a>
Thursday	Matthew 27:11-56 <a href="#">Israel's crucified king</a>
Friday	Luke 3:21-37 <a href="#">The beloved Son</a>
Saturday	Philippians 2:1-11 <a href="#">The humble servant</a>
Sunday	Revelation 5 <a href="#">The lamb that was slain</a>

**The Cross** is the source of God's saving power and through it people can be rescued from the influence and impact of sin. When a person puts their trust in Christ, believing in the effectiveness of His cross and resurrection and turning from what they know to be wrong, the relationship between God and that person is restored. They can know God as their Heavenly Father, a relationship that begins now and extends beyond death (for eternity).

Monday	Isaiah 53:1-12 <a href="#">Jesus bears our sin and dies in our place</a>
Tuesday	2 Corinthians 5:21; John 1:29-30 <a href="#">Jesus the Lamb of God</a>
Wednesday	Hebrews 2:14-17 <a href="#">Jesus our triumphant high priest</a>

Thursday	John 12:27-33; Luke 11:17-22; 1 John 3:7-8; Colossians 2:13-15 <a href="#">Jesus defeats Satan and the powers of darkness</a>
Friday	1 John 4:7-12; Galatians 2:20 <a href="#">Jesus demonstrates the magnificent amazing love of God</a>
Saturday	Ephesians 1:3-14 <a href="#">Jesus: Ransom and redemption</a>
Sunday	Colossians 1:15-23 <a href="#">Jesus reconciles all things to God by his death on the cross</a>

**The Holy Spirit** is God's gift that He is pleased to give those who have put their trust in Him. The person of the Holy Spirit comes to live inside people and equips, enables and empowers them to live as children of God, show the world who He is, and reveal what He is doing.

Monday	Ezekiel 36:16-38 <a href="#">Hearts made new</a>
Tuesday	John 14:15-31 <a href="#">Jesus promises the Holy Spirit</a>
Wednesday	John 15:18-16:15 <a href="#">The work of the Spirit</a>
Thursday	Acts 2:14-41 <a href="#">A promise of the Spirit fulfilled</a>
Friday	1 Corinthians 12 <a href="#">Gift and togetherness</a>
Saturday	2 Peter 1:12-18 <a href="#">The Spirit speaks</a>
Sunday	Romans 8 <a href="#">Life through the Spirit</a>

**The Kingdom of God** (also called the Kingdom of Heaven) is God's rule and reign on the earth. Jesus, in his life, showed us what the coming of the Kingdom of God looked like. Through his death and resurrection Jesus made it possible for the impact and influence of the devil to be undone, and for God's Kingdom to extend and increase.

Monday	1 Chronicles 29:10-20 <a href="#">Kingdom, power and glory</a>
Tuesday	Daniel 7 <a href="#">Daniel's dream</a>
Wednesday	Matthew 6:5-15 <a href="#">The Lord's Prayer</a>
Thursday	Matthew 13:1-52 <a href="#">Seeds, weeds, pearls and treasure</a>
Friday	Acts 8:1-25. <a href="#">The good news of the kingdom</a>
Saturday	Ephesians 4:17-5:20 <a href="#">Living in the kingdom</a>
Sunday	Revelation 21:1-8 <a href="#">The perfect kingdom</a>

**The Return of Jesus** Jesus will return and the Kingdom of God will be fully established. This means that all things will be renewed and restored to what God had originally intended for his creation.

Monday	Isaiah 62 <a href="#">The shape of things to come</a>
Tuesday	Matthew 24:1-35 <a href="#">Signs of the times</a>
Wednesday	Matthew 24:36 - 25:13 <a href="#">The day and the hour unknown ... just be ready!</a>
Thursday	Matthew 25:14-46 <a href="#">Gold and goats</a>
Friday	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 <a href="#">He's coming on the clouds</a>
Saturday	1 John 2:28-3:10 <a href="#">We're going to be like Him.</a>
Sunday	Revelation 22:6-17 <a href="#">The new day dawning</a>

**The Bible** The Bible is God's inspired Word to us and is an essential way God that speaks to us. When we spend time reading the Bible, thinking about it, and making it a part of our daily lives, God by His Holy Spirit can reveal who He is, who we are, and what he wants to do in our lives.

Monday	Deuteronomy 11 <a href="#">Love and obedience</a>
Tuesday	Joshua 1 <a href="#">On your mind and your lips</a>
Wednesday	Psalms 2 <a href="#">Producing fruit</a>
Thursday	Matthew 4:1-11 <a href="#">Feast on It</a>
Friday	John 17:6-19 <a href="#">Sanctified by the truth</a>
Saturday	Romans 10 <a href="#">Keep the Word near</a>
Sunday	Revelation 1:9-20 <a href="#">A sharp sword</a>

**Prayer** is a crucial part of our relationship with God and a key aspect of how the Kingdom of God is advanced. It underpins all that the church does.

Monday	1 Chronicles 16 <a href="#">Sing, proclaim, declare!</a>
Tuesday	Jeremiah 33 <a href="#">Prayer and revelation</a>
Wednesday	Luke 11:5-10; 18:1-8 <a href="#">Persistence in prayer</a>
Thursday	1 John 5:1-21 <a href="#">He hears us!</a>
Friday	Ephesians 6:10 <a href="#">Pray in the Spirit</a>
Saturday	1 Corinthians 3 <a href="#">We're all co-workers in His service</a>
Sunday	James 5:7-20 <a href="#">Powerful prayers!</a>

**The Church** both when gathered together and when scattered throughout communities, are called to be working together in unity with God (Father, Jesus and Holy Spirit). Our purpose is to bring about what He came to do through Jesus,— remembering that it is His work we are doing.

Monday	Psalms 149 <a href="#">The power of praise</a>
Tuesday	Matthew 18:15-20 <a href="#">Where two or three</a>
Wednesday	Acts 2:42-47 <a href="#">Devoted to . . .</a>
Thursday	Romans 16 <a href="#">A place for everyone</a>
Friday	Ephesians 4 1-16 <a href="#">Unity and maturity</a>
Saturday	Colossians 3:1-17 <a href="#">One body called to peace</a>
Sunday	1 Corinthians 12:12-31 <a href="#">Unity and diversity</a>

*So, as children of God, part of God's family (the church), created in His image and loved by him, we have received the Holy Spirit and a God-given authority to bring the influence and impact of the Kingdom of God here on earth. Filled with God's love, it is our responsibility to share, display and declare the power and the impact of Jesus's death and resurrection everywhere.*

