

Bible Read Through Challenge:

Hello EFBC Women. I wanted to take this opportunity to encourage you in **2022** to be in **God's Word** and in **Community**. If you're not already plugged into a weekly Bible study, I urge you to **jump in** and get connected. You won't regret it. We have an amazing group of women at EFBC who, like you, are on their own unique journeys of faith with a desire to grow and know the Lord more. We need you and one another in support and accountability to help us grow! (click [here](#) for more information on how to get involved) .

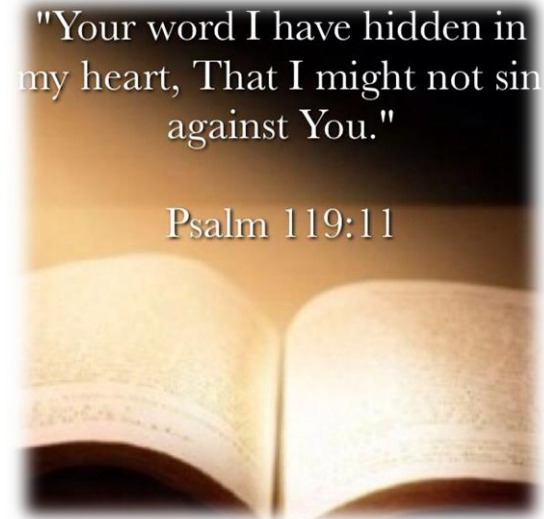
Another opportunity we are offering in the New Year is our *Bible Read Through Challenge*. The psalmist says in Psalm 119:11 "I have hidden Your Word in my heart, that I might not sin against You." Another translation says it this way: "I have **stored up** Your Word in my heart that I might not sin against You." I love that imagery of a continued gathering ... "**stored up**". As we spend time continuously in God's Word, gathering truths, placing them at the very center of our lives, Christ becomes the firm and unchanging foundation we can build upon. As we hide/store up His Word, we gain a confidence in Him and a self-controlled, grace-filled perspective to live in a way that is God-honoring. At EFBC we truly believe, as Hebrews 4:12 reminds us, that God's Word is alive and active and has the ability to transform our lives if we give it space to.

Whether this is your first time reading through the Bible, or if you have read through it several times before; we invite you to join us in accepting this year's *Bible Read Through Challenge*.

Our read will begin on **Saturday, January 1, 2022**. The format we will use is a chronological reading plan from [The Bible Recap](#). This chronological plan will allow us the opportunity to rehearse the different events of the Bible in the order that they actually happened in history, which can be helpful for understanding the fuller picture of the entirety of Scripture. You can choose any reading plan you prefer really; our goal is to be in the Word daily, and to give God's Word space to speak into our lives.

We will plan to meet together once a quarter to share and discuss what God is showing us about Himself and teaching us through His Word. I would even encourage you to grab a friend and meet weekly if you're able to. Accountability is a great motivator to encourage us to stick with it.

We'll have The Bible Recaps' host, Tara Leigh to encourage us daily in her podcast as well. I love the 5 prayer focus points that she offers at the beginning of each day: **1)** God, give me wisdom, knowledge, and understanding. **2)** God, let any knowledge I gain serve to help me love You and others more, and not puff me up. **3)** God, help me see something new about You I've



"Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You."

Psalm 119:11

never seen before. **4)** God, correct any lies I believe about You or anything I misunderstand and lastly **5)** God, direct my steps according to Your Word.

After our time in the Word, Tara-Leigh will give us a summary to help us stay on track with the metanarrative of Scripture. Her heart is to encourage women to see God's character by being in His Word. So rather than a commentary, her podcast will be more like an overview and highlight reel rolled into one.

As women of God, it is important that we get filled up before we can effectively pour into the lives of others. My encouragement and challenge to you here is to come get **"filled up"** by **"spending time in God's Word"** so that we can be effective ministers of who He has called us to be as women of God.

Women, we can do this! Just **20 minutes** a day (**15 minutes** in the Word followed by a **5-minute** recap podcast with the **Bible Recap**) ... Really a small investment when considering the strong paid dividends in return 😊 Lets be **Women of the Word** in 2022!

GETTING STARTED:

Listen to Tara-Leigh's prep podcast to get started here [Let's Read the Bible in a Year \(Chronological Plan\)](#)!

HERES HOW IT WORKS:

- 1) Each day you'll read the assigned reading (see reading schedule [here](#)), then for those interested you can tune in to **The Bible Recap** each day after you've finished your reading (see links below).
- 2) The Bible Recap is hosted by Tara-Leigh Cobble. She shares a short daily podcast (8 min) where she highlights and summarizes that day's Bible reading in an easy to understand way. One of the things I appreciate about these Recaps is that it gives you the opportunity to read on your own and then additional food for thought with what Tara-Leigh calls "God Shots"(i.e. small snapshots of God's Character as seen through that days reading). NOTE: If you'd like to follow this format, you can subscribe to her podcast on one of these available platforms: [iTunes](#) | [Spotify](#) | [Stitcher](#) | [Podbean](#) | [Google](#) | [Google Play](#) | [YouTube](#)

- 3) For print users: print your plan:
- 4) For digital users:
 - Download the [Bible app](#).
 - Sign up for your reading plan: [Whole Bible \(1 Year\)](#)
- 5) Listen to **The Bible Recaps** Prep Episodes to set you up for success. They'll answer most/all of your questions — even the ones you didn't know you had!
 - [2021 Prep](#)
 - Prep Ep 1: [Let's Read the Bible in a Year \(Chronological Plan\)!](#)
 - Prep Ep 2: [How I Learned to Love \(Reading\) the Bible](#)
 - Prep Ep 3: [Why Reading the Whole Bible is Important](#) (*interview with Lee McDerment*)
 - Prep Ep 4: [Preparing to Read the Bible](#)
 - Prep Ep 5: [Avoiding Common Mistakes: What to Look for When You Read the Bible](#)
 - Prep Ep 6: [Reading the Bible in Community](#)
- 6) Finally, please **LET ME KNOW** if you will be joining us on this adventure. I'd love to help encourage you along the way 😊

Looking forward to this exciting adventure together!

Hungering to know Him more,

Michelle Underwood

Nurturing godly relationship among women as we seek Christ together