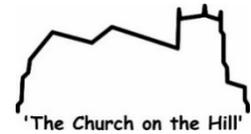


# Our Old Testament Reading Plan



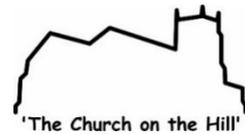
That's it then, the complete reading of the New Testament in chronological order almost finished. If you managed it all – well done!! If you are a little behind we're having a few days' break so you can catch up. Then we've got some Old Testament readings planned, not in any particular order, just some old favourites and perhaps some more unfamiliar ones. We'll start on Saturday with the book of Ruth.

## RUTH

The book of Ruth comes between Judges and the two books of Samuel. It focuses on the story of three people: Naomi, a widow from Bethlehem in Judah; Ruth, the daughter-in-law who comes from Moab; and Boaz, a land-owning farmer from Bethlehem. This well-known and well-loved story tells of Ruth's dedication to Naomi in following her mother-in-law back to her home and finding ways to take care of her. It ends with her marriage to Boaz and her giving birth to a son, Obed, one of King David's ancestors, and from the line of David comes Jesus himself. There are two levels on which to read this story: the surface level which reveals a story of love and commitment, and the deeper level which reveals a message of what 'foreigners' (even hated foreigners like the Moabites) might contribute to God's story of salvation.



## OLD TESTAMENT READING PLAN, WEEK 1



### Prayer for week commencing Monday 13 July

Loving Father God,

We thank you that you care for us and know all our needs, long before we bring them to you. We thank you that you know the bigger picture – far beyond our knowledge; help us to trust you with our future, our homes, our families, our hopes and aspirations.

Forgive us, Lord, when we are disappointed with the answer to our prayers – when we don't get the answer we want – help us to place our trust in you, safe in the knowledge that you know what is best for us.

Give us generous hearts, sharing what we have with those in need, even when that sharing means making sacrifices.

We pray for refugees across the world, fleeing from war, cruelty and famine. Give us hearts to welcome them into our communities, supporting and caring for them.

Amen

<b>Day 92</b>	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Final day of our New Testament readings, Revelation chapters 19, 20, 21 and 22
<b>Day 93</b>	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	<b><i>Four days to have a rest or maybe catch-up and finish the Book of Revelation. On Saturday and Sunday it's the book of Ruth then next week, starting on Monday, it's Samuel.</i></b>
<b>Day 94</b>	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	
<b>Day 95</b>	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	
<b>Day 96</b>	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	
<b>Day 97</b>	Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Ruth chapters 1 and 2
<b>Day 98</b>	Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Ruth chapter 3 and 4

### Collect for Sunday 19 July - Trinity 6

Merciful God,

you have prepared for those who love you  
such good things as pass our understanding:  
pour into our hearts such love toward you  
that we, loving you in all things and above all things,  
may obtain your promises,  
which exceed all that we can desire;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit  
one God, now and forever.

Amen