

Redeemer Lutheran Church issues a 90-day challenge to our brothers and sisters in Christ. That is ... everyone reading this message. Members of the adult Sunday School class accepted a challenge from our Pastor, the Reverend Robert Kobler, three months ago. We agreed to enroll in a program to read the entire Bible from cover to cover in just 90 days! That seems like an enormous task, because to keep up with the group and to be ready for class discussions about our reading each Sunday, each of us had to read about 12 pages per day using the New International Version of the Bible. But we did it, and we had nothing but positive comments by all participants.

Did you know that on the average, Christians spend only about 7 minutes a day reading God's word? We also receive pieces of text during Bible study groups or during weekly scripture readings at church services. Most of the time our exposure to the Bible covers a little bit here, and a little bit there. How many can actually say that they have read the entire Bible from cover to cover? But what a rewarding experience it is, when you do. It is amazing to see how everything fits together from book to book, and verse to verse. Yes, God does have a plan; and He reveals it all, step by step, in the Bible.

Many churches and study groups have taken on such a formidable task, and found that it is much easier to do than they thought. The members of Redeemer Lutheran Church used a guide book and video cd featuring Ted Cooper Jr., with Stephen and Amanda Sorenson. The program, called "The Bible in 90 Days," is published by Zondervan Publishing Company, the world's largest Bible publisher. The video contains 14 sessions, which aided our discussion and understanding of the week's reading assignment. The materials are available from Zondervan on-line at "<http://www.biblein90days.com/>," and are suggested because the video sessions, especially, help to tie everything together and guide everyone through this rich experience. (Please note that no-one at Redeemer receives any remuneration from Zondervan by endorsing this program.)

As Ted Cooper, Jr. says in the welcome section of the study guide ... "Reading every word of the Bible is not the norm, nor is doing so in such a brief period of time. Something just happens when you do this." By reading the Bible as a single book - from Genesis to Revelation - you will see the total message of the Bible, giving you new perspectives on God's love for you and His plan for all of us. We at Redeemer want to challenge our fellow church families and friends to read about the good news of God by moving away from your television sets for just 90 minutes each day, and spend that time on something that is sure enrich your lives. Call Redeemer Lutheran Church at (936) 564-6729 for information.

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