

Welcome to week 1 of Anchored Life! Are you ready to get started?

Have you ever read through the New Testament before... with others? If you're like most of us, you probably haven't! Sure, maybe you've read through the New Testament by yourself, and maybe you've even read through it with a significant other, but have you done it in a group? And does that even make a difference? Keep reading below to find out!

What's in Week 1's Edition:

- **Week 1 Intro Video:** Want to get a sneak peek at what's coming up this week that puts everything in perspective in just over 3 minutes? We've got you covered!
- Find out what **this week's reading plan** is (plus some extra ways you can be "reading")
- **Weekly Willpower!** Why reading with others matters! Plus encouragement, tips, and more.
- **What's that you say?** It turns out the Bible is worth talking about, and we want to hear about it!

Week 1 Intro Video:

Immerse: Messiah Week 1 (Luke - Acts Part I)



Did you know that Luke and Acts were both written by Luke, and that he wrote them to the same person? And did you know that Luke is the longest book in the New Testament? By this Friday, you will have read all the way through Luke — that's something to be proud of!

Check out the video for more great insights into this week's reading.

[Watch This Week's Video](#)

Week 1 Reading Plan



Ready to dive in? Let's get started!

- Day 1: pp. A9-12
- Day 2: pp. 13-27
- Day 3: pp. 28-37
- Day 4: pp. 37-47
- Day 5: pp. 47-59

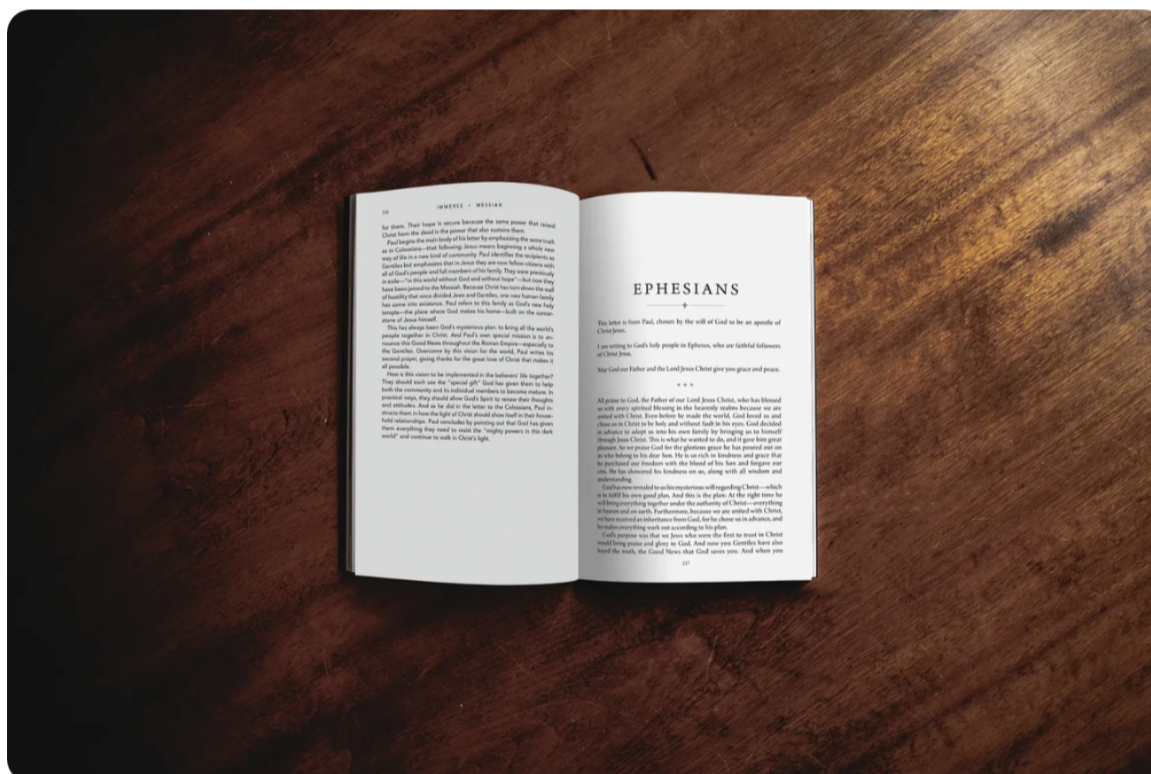
Don't have an Immerse Bible, or want to change up your reading experience? Check out the Saddleback app to find both the audio and digital versions! Click [HERE](#) to learn more.

And for families with kids in elementary or middle and high school, we've got you covered too!

- [Saddleback Kids: Hey-O Stories of the Bible podcast](#)
- [Saddleback Student Ministry: Immerse: Luke & Acts podcast](#)

Weekly Willpower

What to Expect When You're Expecting (Something Great!)



Every time we go to church we hear about the importance and value of reading the Bible. It is a timeless, world-altering book that has made an impact on countless people for thousands of years. We hear over and over again about the value and importance of personal devotions and studying the Bible. And that's true, but...

It is equally true that God's word isn't *just* for me, it is also for *us*. After all, the Bible was written to groups of people, so why don't we read it that way? The Bible and the church existed for over a thousand years before the printing press was even invented. That means, generation after generation, there was only one way they could read the Bible: together.

The Bible is the Word of God. It is one of the ways God speaks to us. But God *also* speaks to us through Spirit-filled believers. So if we want to hear the voice of God, if we want to pursue him, to listen to his leading, then let's read his word *together*. Talk about it together, and be drawn closer together, with God and each other.

What should my book club do if we are meeting early in the week and haven't read much?

If your group is meeting early in the week, it may feel like you don't have much to talk about yet. But this is a great opportunity to do two things:

1. Talk about expectations! Write down what you *think* is going to happen, whether you think it will be hard or easy. Talk about if you are feeling inspired, convicted, or even like you're back in high school with a big reading project. If you are an established group, share stories of when God has used someone in your group to make a big impact or impression.
2. Read the first day together! Reading the Bible out loud together is a very different experience than reading on your own, and you will *definitely* have a lot to discuss after the first 20 minutes of reading. The first day includes one of two New Testament genealogy lists and you can see who in your group knows or recognizes the most people in the list.

But what if I still have questions?

If you want to learn more about the Anchored Life Challenge and Immerse: Messiah then you've got three great options:

- You can read the [full FAQ document HERE](#)
- Or you can watch one of the [recent Zoom FAQ sessions with Pastor Jason Williams](#).
- Reply to this email with any book club questions you are stuck with!

That's What I'm Talking About

Let's Hear It!



It's Time to Tell on Someone

We'd love to hear about some of the insights you've had from your book club! Share some good quotes, tough questions, funny misreadings, or even stories of how you can see God doing something in your life or the life of someone else in your book club! Seriously, we want to hear as many as you've got. Just reply to this email or send an email to smallgroups@saddleback.com to "tell on" someone in your book club!

It's Not Too Late to Tell Someone Else

The Anchored Life may have started, but it isn't too late for someone to accept the challenge and join us! In fact, we think that after you've gotten a taste, you're going to want to share it with more people (the Bible is simply *that good*). To have them join, head over to saddleback.com/anchored and click accept the challenge! Don't sweat starting in the middle, just jump into that week's reading and we will be changed together!

[Join The Anchored Life Challenge](#)

