

The only thing that matters is that you are reading God's word regularly. While that is still true with this schedule, the goal with this one is to get a better understanding of the entire story of the bible. There is no substitute for reading God's word. Keep reading! My website is at <http://graceofourlord.wordpress.com>. I encourage you to get the actual reading plan I am currently following. You can get it from the same place I do - at [this link](#). They have some great guidance for the reading plan there as well, and they have it all in both PDF and in Kindle format!

February Reading Schedule

February 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Jan Week 05	(Jan 30) Genesis 24	(Jan 31) Genesis 25	1 Genesis 26	2 Genesis 27	3 Genesis 28	4
5 Feb Week 01	6 Genesis 29	7 Genesis 30	8 Genesis 31	9 Genesis 32	10 Genesis 37	11
12 Feb Week 02	13 Genesis 39	14 Genesis 40	15 Genesis 41	16 Genesis 42	17 Genesis 43	18
19 Feb Week 03	20 Genesis 44	21 Genesis 45	22 Genesis 46	23 Exodus 1	24 Exodus 2	25
26 Feb Week 04	27 Exodus 3	28 Exodus 4	29 Exodus 5	(Mar 1) Exodus 6- (Mar 2) Exodus 7 Notes: This bible reading schedule was not designed by me. I am simply following it this year. This schedule skips some chapters in order to accommodate the goal of "getting the big picture" of the whole Bible as the story of God's plan of salvation.		

Feb Week 2 (Week 7) Summary

Gen 39, 40, 41, 42, and 43 - Click the chapter below to go to the ESV Bible passage for that chapter and read or listen.

[Gen 39](#) - Potiphar's wife would not leave Joseph alone, trying to persuade him to "lie with" her. Unable to slip her grasp, Joseph just leaves her holding the garment. She makes up the story that gets Joseph thrown in prison (v 17-18). Joseph again goes from a "most favored" status to fellowship with the king's prisoners. But the Lord showed him steadfast love (v 21) and he succeeded in whatever he did there as he again won favor, this time with the prison keeper. Joseph is his statement to Potiphar's wife that he could not do "this great wickedness and sin against God." It is his recognition of what sin really means that has meaning for us today. We sometimes hurt ourselves when we sin, and we often hurt other people because of it. But it always hurts the Lord. Notice as was the case with Potiphar, Joseph's success with the Lord's help was such that the prison keeper did not have to think about any of the things he was in charge of.

[Gen 40](#) - Joseph is joined by Pharaoh's chief cupbearer and baker, who are imprisoned for an unnamed "offense against their lord of Egypt." These men would be accustomed to a better lifestyle and to having

access to the magicians and "wise men" in Pharaoh's court. But now they have nobody to turn to in order to try to find out what these dreams mean. Joseph, after hearing each one says "This is its interpretation" - as someone speaking with authority, as indeed he was. In verses 20-22 both prophecies are fulfilled, proving him correct. But the cupbearer does not honor Joseph's request to "remember" him to Pharaoh, and Joseph remains in prison. But note his confidence that he can interpret those dreams, and the knowledge of where that gift comes from (verse 8). After all he has endured - and still in prison, he clearly knows that God is helping him.

[Gen 41](#) – Lengthy, but crucially important chapter of the Bible. Pharaoh has two dreams of his own. When his wise men were unable to tell him what the dreams mean, his cupbearer told him about Joseph rightly predicting the baker's fate and his own by interpreting their dreams. So Joseph is quickly brought out of prison (verse 14), cleaned up, and brought before Pharaoh, who repeats his dreams to him. Joseph is quick to point out before interpreting (verse 15), that it is God who will give Pharaoh the answers he is looking for, not Joseph himself. Then makes it clear that God has shown Pharaoh through these dreams what He is about to do. There will be seven years of great abundance, followed by seven years of severe famine. Pharaoh should appoint overseers and take "one-fifth of the produce" from the plentiful years into reserves (verse 36). Pharaoh decides that he will be that overseer, second only to Pharaoh (verse 40). To complete his acceptance Pharaoh gives him an Egyptian name and the hand of "Asenath, the daughter of Potiphra priest of On" in marriage. Manasseh and Ephraim are born. These two names figure prominently throughout the Old Testament, as their descendants become the famed "half-tribes" destined to go with the descendants of Joseph's 11 brothers, as the "Twelve Tribes of Israel" are led by Moses, and finally by Joshua to the Promised Land ~400 years later. The boy who was 17 years old (in Gen 37:2) before his brothers threw him away is 30 years old when he begins with Pharaoh (verse 46); and after the famine began 7 years later, "all the earth came to Egypt to Joseph to buy grain, because the famine was severe over all the earth" (verse 57). Now, thanks to God, the young Hebrew has just become the second most powerful man in the world!

[Gen 42](#) - With the famine in full swing now, Jacob hears that there is grain for sale in Egypt and sends all of his sons except Benjamin to buy some. The brothers appear before their brother, who was just a teenager the last time they saw him - no reason to think he may still be alive. He accuses them of being spies and has them confined for three days to show them his power. Joseph then sends all but Simeon back to return with the younger brother they mentioned as proof they are not spies and has their money placed back in their bags. The discovery of the money brings great fear to them and to their father, Jacob, when they return. Is this the work of God upon them for what they did to their brother (verse 28)? If they were caught with it, what then? Jacob has to wonder himself why they still have money – and what has *really* become of Simeon. And now they say they have to take Benjamin with them. Jacob flatly refuses to allow it (verse 38). The brothers spoke to one another of their guilt concerning Joseph (verse 21) as being the reason that this fell on them. Their sin is weighing heavily on them, as sin often.

[Gen 43](#) - The grain that Joseph's brothers brought back from Egypt has run out. Jacob (who is referred to as "Israel" more times in this chapter than previously) knows that the brothers must go back for more, but it is Judah who speaks up and convinces his father to entrust Benjamin to him (verse 9). In stark contrast to Reuben, he places the responsibility for the boy's safety on his own shoulders. Brought to Joseph's house, their fears mount (verse 18), but instead of harsh

treatment, they are fed and treated well. Joseph's love and compassion for his younger brother is great, and Benjamin receives five times the amount of food that his brothers get.