

The Essential 100 Challenge (The E100) is an effective Bible reading program built around 100 carefully selected short Bible passages — 50 from the Old Testament and 50 from the New Testament. It enables people to get the big picture of God's Word and in the process develop a daily Bible reading habit.

Have you ever been intimidated by the Bible? You want to read it, but you also want to understand it. And it seems like every time you get brave and open the book up on your own pretty soon you find yourself stuck, frustrated and maybe even embarrassed. So you close it back up and find something else to do.

Well, do I have good news for you! 2012 is the year you will finally feel like the Bible is your friend and not a stranger. During this next calendar year we will be working through the top 100 passages in the Bible which, if read, will give you the big picture of the work of God in history and in your life.

In the monthly newsletter I will publish a list of readings for the month, approximately two per week. In my sermons each week I will teach about one, (and perhaps both) of the passages for that week. We'll cover the second passage in a midweek discussion group. We also plan to look at the material sometimes during Downhill Worship, C.A.T., Kids Klub and other venues. Together, we will cover 100 passages in a year.

I'm guessing that each assignment will take less than 10 minutes to read.

What's there to lose? And what is there to gain?

Don't have a Bible? Go to www.biblegateway.com. In the search box type in the reference from the list and you'll be on your way. I recommend you choose the New International Version of the Bible to start with, though I also like The Message and the New Living Translation as well.

Let me know if you decide to take this adventure with us. Drop me an email at pam@sugarloafministry.com or find Sugarloaf Area Christian Ministry on facebook and post a comment.

May God light a fire in your heart; a passion for His Word that will inspire your life.