

And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. Luke 24:27

The Resurrected Jesus was walking with two followers who did not recognize him. He was helping them to understand all that had happened (his death on the cross and rising). Where did he start? With the stories of Moses and the Prophets! That's where we'll be starting when we kick-off the next part of our Book of Faith Read through the Bible. We'll be reading through the Old Testament of our Bibles this time!

We cannot fully understand who Jesus is without a knowledge of the Old Testament Scriptures. Listen to Jesus: *Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished (Matthew 5:17-18).* What I find so interesting is what Jesus says next: *For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 5:20).* God doesn't want us to just have knowledge of these Scriptures (because the Pharisees were experts in the details of the Law), he desires for us to have a new understanding of it. We are invited to hear how God would have us to understand these Scriptures, living lives in relationship with our Lord and Savior who came to fulfill the Old Testament Scriptures.

We will have the opportunity this month to recommit ourselves to Reading Through Our Bibles. From January through April of this year we read the New Testament books of the Bible. Beginning August 22, we will kick off the first part of our Old Testament Reading. From August 23- December 3 we will read from Genesis through the book of 1 Chronicles. We will break in December and continue reading from January 3 to May 20. Members will be meeting in Bible Discussion Groups in people's homes and at the church, reflecting and discussing "*what was said in all the Scriptures concerning Jesus.*" This is a big challenge and time for us as the people of God to grow in our *familiarity with the Scriptures.* It will *increase our knowledge of the Bible and give us confidence in speaking God's Word.*

Start planning ahead! Get ready to plow through God's Word! Check out the Book of Faith table in the Fellowship Hall for all the information you will need. Join a Bible Discussion Group so that you can learn and share with others at Mt. Horeb! God has an exciting journey in store for all of us who undertake the challenge of **READING THROUGH OUR BIBLES!**

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Ken