

# CHRISTIAN CLASSICS CURRICULUM

BY MARK DEVER AND MICHAEL J. THATE

The following reading list was created for The Gospel Coalition, a fellowship of Gospel-centered evangelical churches in North America. The readings listed here are some of the key texts which have shaped the movement and its current leaders, and offer an historical sense and context to the current movement, particularly in North America. It hardly assumes to be universal, representative, or global in its sampling of church history.

MONTH	YEAR ONE	YEAR TWO	YEAR THREE	YEAR FOUR
<b>January</b> (Early Church)	Henry Bettenson, <i>Documents of the Early Church and The Martyrdom of Polycarp</i>	Polycarp, <i>Epistle to the Philippians</i> ; Irenaeus, <i>Against All Heresies</i>	Clement of Rome, <i>First Epistle to the Corinthians</i>	St Chrysostom, <i>Homilies on the Gospel of St. John and The Epistle to the Hebrews</i>
<b>February</b> (Augustine)	<i>Confessions</i>	<i>City of God</i>	<i>Doctrinal Treatises</i> (esp. <i>On the Holy Trinity</i> ) and <i>Moral Treatises</i>	<i>Anti-Pelagian Writings</i>
<b>March</b> (Martin Luther)	Roland H. Bainton, <i>Here I Stand: A Life of Martin Luther</i> ; Heiko A. Oberman, <i>Luther: Man Between God and Devil</i>	Timothy F. Lull and William R. Russell, eds., <i>Martin Luther's Basic Theological Writings</i> (2nd ed.; Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress Press, 2005)	Luther, <i>The Bondage of the Will</i>	Luther, <i>Table Talk</i> and the prefaces of his commentaries on Romans and Galatians
<b>April</b> (John Calvin)	Calvin, <i>Institutes of the Christian Religion</i> , Vol. 1	Calvin, <i>Institutes of the Christian Religion</i> , Vol. 2	Bernard Cottret, <i>Calvin: A Biography</i> ; Theodore Beza, <i>The Life of John Calvin</i>	Calvin, Read through various passages in his many commentaries on Genesis, Psalms, Romans, Galatians, Philippians, or your other favorite books of the Bible.
<b>May</b> (Richard Sibbes, Richard Baxter)	Sibbes, <i>The Bruised Reed and the Smoking Flax</i> and <i>The Glorious Feast of the Gospel</i>	Baxter, <i>The Reformed Pastor and The Practical Works</i>	Sibbes, <i>The Spiritual Man's Man's Aim</i> and <i>A Glance of Heaven</i>	Sibbes, <i>The Saint's Comforts</i> and <i>Salvation Applied</i>
<b>June</b> (John Bunyan, John Owen)	Bunyan, <i>Pilgrim's Progress</i> and Kelly M. Kopic and Justin Taylor, eds., <i>Communion with the Triune God</i> (Wheaton: Crossway Books, 2007)	Kopic and Taylor, eds., <i>Overcoming Sin and Temptation: Three Classic Works by John Owen</i> (Wheaton: Crossway Books, 2006)	Bunyan, <i>Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners</i> and Owen, <i>Death of Death in the Death of Christ</i>	Owen, <i>The Doctrine of Justification by Faith</i>

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<b>July</b> (Jonathan Edwards)	Iain H. Murray, <i>Jonathan Edwards: A New Biography</i> (Banner of Truth, 1996); George M. Marsden, <i>Jonathan Edwards: A Life</i> (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2004).	Edwards, <i>Freedom of the Will and Charity and Its Fruits</i>	Edwards, <i>Religious Affections</i> ; John Piper, <i>God's Passion for His Glory: Living the Vision of Jonathan Edwards (With the Complete Text of "The End for Which God Created the World")</i> (Wheaton: Crossway Books, 1998).	Wilson H. Kimnach, Kenneth P. Minkema, and Douglas A. Sweeney, <i>The Sermons of Jonathan Edwards: A Reader</i> (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1999), and Edwards, <i>Resolutions</i>
<b>August</b> (Charles H. Spurgeon)	Spurgeon, <i>Lectures to My Students</i>	Spurgeon, <i>Till He Comes</i>	Spurgeon, <i>The Treasury of David</i>	Spurgeon, any number of his various sermons
<b>September</b> (B. B. Warfield)	Warfield, <i>Revelation and Inspiration</i> (vol. 1 of his complete works)	Warfield, <i>Biblical Doctrines</i> (vol. 2)	Warfield, <i>Calvin and Calvinism</i> (vol. 5)	Warfield, <i>Studies in Theology</i> (vol. 9)
<b>October</b> (D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones)	Iain H. Murray, <i>David Martyn Lloyd-Jones: The First Forty Years (1899–1939)</i> and <i>David Martyn Lloyd-Jones: The Fight of Faith (1939–1981)</i>	Lloyd-Jones, <i>Spiritual Depression: Its Causes and Cures</i>	Lloyd-Jones, <i>Studies in the Sermon on the Mount</i>	Lloyd-Jones, <i>Great Doctrines of the Bible: God the Father, God the Son; God the Holy Spirit; The Church and Last Things</i>
<b>November</b> (C. S. Lewis and Blaise Pascal)	Lewis, <i>Mere Christianity</i> and <i>Surprised by Joy</i>	Lewis, <i>The Abolition of Man and God in the Dock</i>	Pascal, <i>Pensées</i> ; Lewis, <i>Reflections on the Psalms</i>	Lewis, <i>Screwtape Letters</i> and <i>The Pilgrim's Regress</i>
<b>December</b> (Contemporary Authors)	J. I. Packer, <i>Knowing God and Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God</i>	John Stott, <i>The Cross of Christ</i> ; Carl F. H. Henry, <i>The Uneasy Conscience of Modern Fundamentalism</i>	Francis A. Schaeffer, <i>The God Who Is There; Escape from Reason and He Is There And He Is Not Silent</i>	Any of the books by the Council Members of The Gospel Coalition (See their writings on our About Us page at <a href="http://thegospelcoalition.org">thegospelcoalition.org</a> )

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