

# C r o s s r o a d s C h u r c h

## Bible Reader

### TYPE

1-2 hours per week, casual, volunteer

### FUNCTION

- To read the Bible in a manner that it can be clearly heard and understood
- The Bible reader is to contribute to the running of the public meeting as described in the guidelines 'Crossroads Classic Meeting'

### JOB DESCRIPTION

#### Preparation

- Make sure you get the correct Bible readings from the MC at least three days before the meeting.
- Work hard at understanding the passage and its significance. Understand the function of words in sentences, sentences in paragraphs, and paragraphs in the book. Understand the 'melodic flow': what are its turning points? Where does it climax? What is its tone? What are its key words?
- Practise speaking the passage out loud. Consider preparing a large, annotated copy of the passage to assist reading.

#### Delivery

- Ask those who need Bibles, including those who would like a copy of the NIV translation, to raise their hand for the ushers to hand out.
- Announce the Bible passage twice, as soon as you stand up and then once people have stopped flipping to the right page. Give the Bible reference in full the first time (type of book, name of book, beginning chapter and verse number, ending chapter and verse number): e.g. "The Gospel of John, chapter 1 verse 15 to chapter 2 verse 3" or "Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, chapter 3". Do not announce the page number in the church Bibles as there are often several editions, each with their own pagination.
- Note: the headings and musical terms in the Psalms are part of the biblical text and should be read. The topical headings throughout most translations are not part of the biblical text and should not be read.

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- Insert contextual markers where needed. For example if the passage begins “He is the image of the invisible God...” it is alright to begin “He, *that is Christ*, is...”
- If reading more than one passage in a row, so that people need to turn to another part of the Bible between readings, allow extra time for those unfamiliar with the Bible, or with English as a second language. Watch for them to find the next passage before beginning reading.

## SELECTION CRITERIA

- Conviction that the Scriptures are the infallible words of God through which he still speaks by his Spirit today
- Diligent prayer life and conviction that prayer is a work of ministry and not just a devotional activity
- Reliability and honesty
- Ability to read well
- Ability to speak in public

## ACCOUNTABILITY

- Level of Authority 1: Wait to be told

## RESOURCES

- Resources: *Directory for the Public Worship of God* (<http://www.covenanter.org/Westminster/directoryforpublicworship.htm>), *The Public Face* (M. Lynch and B. Walter).

## PERFORMANCE OF DUTIES

### Duration

- This commitment is for a duration set by the MC, usually the duration of a sermon series (1-3 months)

linked to [Published/Procedure-and-Practice/Crossroads-Classic/Bible-Reader.pdf](#)