

Reading the Bible in Church

BEFOREHAND

Find out what the Bible passage is a few days beforehand and practice reading it out loud at home until you feel comfortable with it (the way you are going to sound out difficult words, the way the passage 'flows' and the general meaning of the whole passage).

Understand what sort of literature the passage is (is it a story, a song, a theological argument, etc.? – each will be read differently).

You might like to practice using passages such as;

- Jonah chapter 1 some exciting narrative
- Psalm 42:1-11 poetry/song
- Romans 5:1-11 theological argument

If it's a story, read it with the kind of expression you might use for a child's bed time story!

Pray that God will help you to read clearly and that it will be for the good and benefit of everyone who will hear you read it.

IN CHURCH

Know how far to stand from the microphone – your mouth should be about 12" away from it.

Announce the passage and the page number from the pew Bible and allow people time to find it.

Read the passage slowly (about the pace of a Radio 4 newsreader)

The normal ending is "This is the Word of the Lord", to which the people will reply, "**Thanks be to God**".