



## How to read the Bible?

1. Make daily reading a habit.
2. Read with a purpose in mind. You should be reading the Bible in order to understand the will of God for your life.
3. Read with a goal in mind. For instance, Read and understand Genesis, read to get an overview of the Old Testament, read to all the Messianic prophecies in the book of Isaiah. Put something in mind that you want to learn about then, plan how you want to do it.
4. Study as you read. Write your questions down. Take notes like an outline of each chapter or an overview of each book.
5. Put what you read into practice. Vital lessons learned become unforgettable when we begin to live them.
6. Learn to imitate faithful Bible characters: Be like Ezra: "For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the LORD, and to do it, and to teach statutes and ordinances in Israel." ([Ezra 7:10](#))  
\* Prepare your heart to seek the law of the Lord: "Open my eyes, that I may see wondrous things from Your law." ([Psalms 119:18](#))  
\* Do it: "If you love Me, keep My commandments." ([John 14:15](#))
7. Pray before and after you read, saying "I am a stranger in the earth, do not hide Your commandments from me" ([Psalm 119:19](#))

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When you have no one to turn to, no one that will stand by you & no one to share your problems with, the only thing you can do is have faith, GOD is always there.



## When was the Holy Bible written and particularly, who put it all together and when did all this take place?

- The Holy Bible was written by about 40 divinely inspired writers. Those writers came from all walks of life (i.e., prophets, kings, fishermen etc.) and over a period of 1,500 years or more.
- The Holy Bible itself tells us that it is God who is the author of His book:  
\* "All scripture is inspired by God" ([2 Timothy 3:16](#))  
\* "Know this first of all, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ... but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God." ([2 Peter 1:20-21](#))
- The Old Testament scriptures were originally written in Hebrew. Around 200 B.C. they were translated into Greek and were known as the Septuagint. Latin translations of the Septuagint became available late in the second century.
- The first complete gospel didn't appear until around 60 A.D.
- The earliest translations of the New Testament were the Syriac, Latin, and Coptic versions.
- The Latin translation, from the original Hebrew and Greek, was done by St. Jerome in the fourth century. This was the authoritative Bible for the Western Church and was known as the Vulgate.
- With the invention of print, the circulation of the Bible expanded rapidly. The pioneer of the English Bible is William Tyndale who published the New Testament in 1525. Complete Bibles such as Miles Coverdale's edition appeared as early as 1535. Thomas Cromwell had the Matthew Bible another English version. In 1604, King James sponsored a new translation of the Bible which appeared in 1611 and is known as the King James Version. Today there are many translations, each claiming a special merit of accuracy and good diction to the original Greek.



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"Your words were found, and I ate them, and Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart" ([Jeremiah 15/16](#))



**September 2011 Newsletter**  
**Father Mena Fam**



### Some Great Chapters in the Bible

- The Creation Story: [Genesis Chapter 1](#)
- The Ten Commandments Chapter: [Exodus chapter 20](#)
- The wisdom chapter of the Bible: [Proverbs chapter 8](#)
- The beatitudes chapter: [Matthew chapter 5](#)
- The Lord is My Shepherd: [Psalm 23](#)
- The marriage chapter: [I Corinthians chapter 7](#)
- The love chapter: [I Corinthians chapter 13](#)
- The resurrection chapter: [I Corinthians chapter 15](#)
- The tongue chapter: [James chapter 3](#)
- The fellowship chapter: [I John chapter 1](#)

### Facts about the Bible

- The Bible is a compilation of many shorter books written at different times and later assembled together. All books have been divided into chapters, generally a page or so in length, since the early 13th century. Since the mid-16th century, each chapter has been further divided into “verses” of a few short lines or sentences.

### Short N Sweet Story

A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small. The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale.

Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible. The little girl said, “When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah”.

The teacher asked, “What if Jonah went to hell?” The little girl replied, “Then you ask him”.

### The importance of God’s words



- 1- There is a strong link between love & God’s word: Jesus said, “He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by my father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.” ([John 14/21](#))
  - 2- God’s word cleanses us: Jesus said, “You are already clean of the word which I have spoken to you.” ([John 15:3](#)) The king David questions us, “How can a young man cleanse his way? And he answered, “By taking heed according to Your word.” ([Psalm 119:9](#))
  - 3- God’s word is like a fire and a hammer: God said: “Isn’t My word like a fire? Says the Lord and like a hammer that breaks the rock.” ([Jeremiah 23/29](#)) And you know as the fire can burn anything also God’s word can burn the bad desires and sinful ideas. Let God’s words destroy the evil thoughts within us as the hammer can break rocks. That’s why King David sings, “Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You.” ([Psalm 119:11](#))
  - 4- The word of God gives us eternal life: As Jesus said “If anyone keeps my word he shall never see death.” ([John 8/51](#)) Jesus said: “He who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life and shall not come into Judgment.” ([John 5/24](#)) Also, Jesus said: “The word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day,” ([John 12/48](#)) so Simon Peter said to Jesus “Lord to whom we shall go? You have the words of eternal life.” ([John 6/68](#))
  - 5- By the word of God, we can overcome Satan, as St. John Said to the youth, “Your are strong and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the wicked one.” ([John 2/14](#))
- So, we have to read the Bible as much as we can to clean our thoughts and hearts, let’s ask our Lord to fill our hearts with joy and gladness and always abound in every good deed according to His words. Amen



### Quotes about the Bible

- Our heart is like the darkened earth, the Gospel is like the sun, enlightening and giving life to our hearts. May the true sun of the righteousness shine in our hearts, O Lord. - **St. John of Kronstadt**
- It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible. - **George Washington**
- I am profitably engaged in reading the Bible. Take this entire Book that you can by reason and the balance by faith, and you will live and die a better man. It is the best Book which God has given to man. - **Abraham Lincoln**
- The Bible is no mere book, but a Living Creature, with a power that conquers all that opposes it. – **Napoleon**
- Reading the Bible without meditating on it is like trying to eat without swallowing. - **Anonymous**
- I believe the Bible is the best gift God has ever given to man. All the good from the Savior of the world is communicated to us through this book. - **Abraham Lincoln**

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### Church sign sayings

- **Bible is: B**-basic **I**-information **B**-before **L**-leaving **E**-earth.
- Dusty Bibles Lead To Dirty Lives.
- Fight Truth Decay...Study The Bible Daily.
- God wrote only one book, don’t you think you should read it?
- Spend less time on Facebook, and more time with His Book.
- Store the Bible in your heart not on a shelf.
- YOU are the only Bible some people may ever read.