

The bible is God's word to us, beginning with the creation of the world, and ending with the New Testament Church looking forward to the return of Jesus. The Old Testament (OT) follows the story of God and the Israelite people, while the New Testament (NT) focuses on Jesus and the formation of the Church.

The bible is one big story, told through 66 individual books, written by many different authors to different audiences at different times. There are letters, poetry, historical narratives, laws, prophecies and more, all communicating what God wants his people to know.

HOW TO GET STARTED

To help us find our way around the bible, we use a "**book, chapter, verse**" system. Eg, Heb 4:12 is the **book** of Hebrews, *chapter* 4, verse 12. (Look this one up!)

The best place to start is a "gospel" - one of the first 4 books of the New Testament (NT).

HELPFUL TOOLS

- [Youversion app](#) - read and listen, bible plans, verse of the day
- [5x5x5 reading plan](#)
- [Koorong](#) - any resource you want (koorong.com)
- **A study bible** for more background
- **Bible and journal** - to underline a verse, jot down a question
- **A bible companion** - a great introduction is "[Know Your Bible](#)" from Value Books/Barbour Publishing

PASSAGES FOR REFLECTION

Jn 6:35, Ps 119:105, Pro 3:5-6, 2 Tim 3:16-17