

# Grow in the Word with the Bible



The Bible is a book full of stories about how much God loves his people—past, present and future. This holy book is a little like other books you read EXCEPT we believe all the people who wrote it were inspired by God. The Bible is a collection of many books filled with different kinds of writing—history, prophesy stories, letters, prayers, songs and more. We listen to readings from the Bible every time we go to church, but we can learn a lot about God's love by reading the Bible at home with our families. Do you have a Bible of your own? Ask someone to give you one for Christmas or your birthday!

## The Bible Has Two Parts

**The Old Testament** (sometimes called *The Hebrew Bible*) begins with the book of Genesis and the story of creation ("In the beginning"). The Old Testament tells us about our ancestors in faith, the Israelites. It is full of history (*books of Kings*), prayers and songs (*the Psalms*) and prophecies (*Isaiah and Jeremiah*).



**The New Testament** begins with the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. These books tell us about the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. The New Testament contains the history of the early Christian Church in the Acts of the Apostles and letters written mostly by St. Paul. The last book of the Bible is called Revelation.

## How to Find a Bible Verse

Do you have a favorite Bible story? Do you know where and how to find it?

Bible citations (**sigh-TAY-shuns**) show you how to find a verse or a longer passage in the Bible. There are three steps to looking up a Bible verse:

### 1. Find the **book**.

Example: **2 Corinthians**

Say: Second **Cor-IN-thee-ins**.

Hint: Look in the New Testament, after the Gospels and between the book of 1 Corinthians and Galatians.



### 2. Find the **chapter**.

Example: **2 Corinthians 5**

Say: Second Corinthians, chapter five.

Hint: The chapter is the first number after the name of the book.

### 3. Find the **verse number(s)\***

Example: **2 Corinthians 5:17**

Say: Second Corinthians, five, seventeen.

Hint: The verse is the second number, found after the chapter number. They are separated by a colon (:).

\*If two verse numbers are separated with a hyphen (-), read all of the verses in between.

\*If the verse numbers are separated with a comma (,), read only the verses whose numbers are given.



Try looking up some passages from the Bible on your own!

# The Books of the Bible

## OLD TESTAMENT

### PENTATEUCH (Five Books)

Genesis  
Exodus  
Leviticus  
Numbers  
Deuteronomy

### HISTORICAL BOOKS

Joshua  
Judges  
Ruth  
1 Samuel  
2 Samuel  
1 Kings  
2 Kings

### CHRONICLER'S HISTORY & LATER

1 Chronicles  
2 Chronicles  
Ezra  
Nehemiah  
Tobit  
Judith  
Esther  
1 Maccabees  
2 Maccabees

### WISDOM BOOKS

Job  
Psalms  
Proverbs  
Ecclesiastes  
Song of Songs  
Wisdom  
Sirach

### PROPHETIC BOOKS

Isaiah  
Jeremiah  
Lamentations  
Baruch  
Ezekiel  
Daniel

### 12 MINOR PROPHETS

Hosea  
Joel  
Amos  
Obadiah  
Jonah  
Micah  
Nahum  
Habakkuk  
Zephaniah  
Haggai  
Zechariah  
Malachi



## NEW TESTAMENT

### GOSPELS AND ACTS

Matthew  
Mark  
Luke  
John  
Acts

### LETTERS

Romans  
1 Corinthians  
2 Corinthians  
Galatians  
Ephesians  
Philippians  
Colossians  
1 Thessalonians  
2 Thessalonians  
1 Timothy  
2 Timothy  
Titus  
Philemon  
Hebrews  
James  
1 Peter  
2 Peter  
1 John  
2 John  
3 John  
Jude

Revelation

