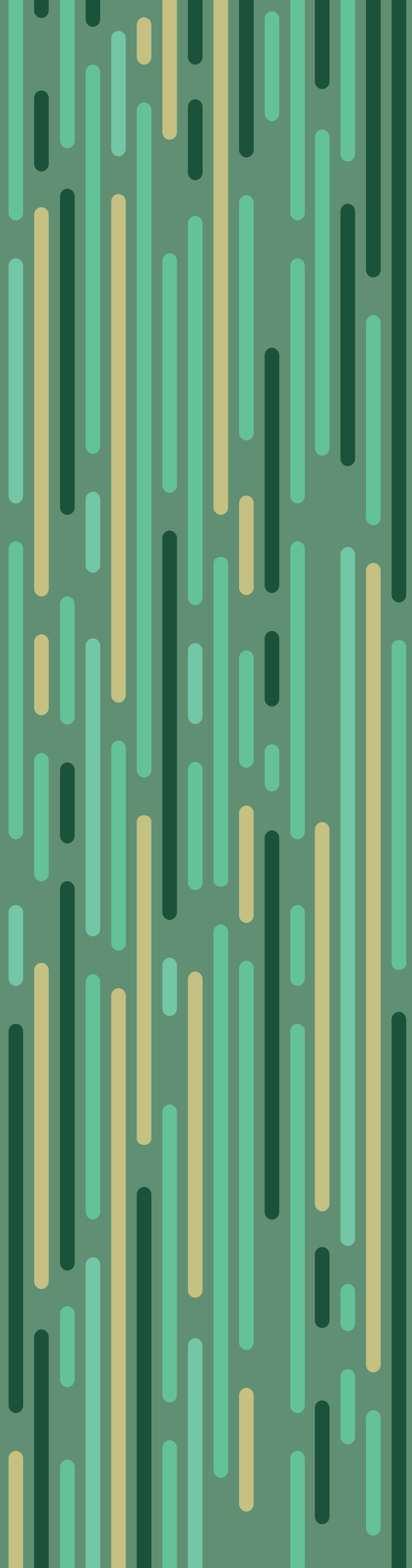




All About the **BIBLE**

A Guide for Kids + Parents



THE CHAPEL

Welcome

A NOTE FOR PARENTS

You don't need to know everything about the Bible to help your child learn to love Scripture. In fact, one of the best things you can model is curiosity. Say: "I don't know. Let's figure that out together."

Let your child ask hard questions. Resist the pressure to turn every Bible passage into a lesson about how they should behave. Instead, keep bringing the conversation back to God: What do we learn about God? What is God doing? What does this show us about God's heart for His people and the world? How might God be inviting us to respond?

And most importantly, help your child experience Scripture as more than words on a page. Help them to learn to read God's Word with God.

Remind them that the Creator of the universe who inspired all the words in the Bible is with them while they read. The goal isn't simply to raise kids who know Bible facts. Our hope is to help them become people who know God, recognize His voice, trust His character, follow Jesus, and learn to live in His Kingdom.

We are grateful to partner with you as you dive into God's word together!

Chape Kids Team

All About the Bible

Have you ever looked at the Bible and thought:

Where do I even begin?

Why is some of this so hard to understand?

How do I know what God is saying?

Why does reading the Bible matter?

If so, you're not alone. Kids and adults have all asked those questions.

The Bible is more than a collection of stories, rules, or inspiring verses. It tells one big story about who God is, what He is doing in the world, and how He invites us to know Him and be part of His Kingdom. God's Kingdom is where God is King, and things are being done His way. Jesus came to bring God's Kingdom to Earth and invites us to be part of what He is doing.

In this guide, you'll learn about the Bible, discover the big story it tells, and practice reading Scripture together.

Are you ready? Let's go!

Part 1: What is the Bible?

The Bible is actually a collection of 66 different books, written by many different people over hundreds of years.

The writers lived in different places, spoke different languages, had different jobs, and wrote different kinds of literature—history, poetry, letters, prophecy, wisdom, and more.

And yet, together, these books tell one story — The Gospel Story.

The gospel, which means “good news,” is simply that God created a good world where people could live with Him. When sin brought brokenness and separation, God never stopped pursuing His people. Throughout the Bible, we see God’s plan to rescue and restore people to Himself, ultimately through Jesus, our King, who came to make all things new.

READ TOGETHER

2 Timothy 3:16-17

What does this passage tell us about where Scripture comes from?

What does it tell us Scripture can do in our lives?

The Bible was written by people, but Scripture tells us that those people wrote under the inspiration of God. That means when we read the Bible, we aren’t simply learning information about God.

God uses His Word to reveal Himself to us, shape us, and teach us how to live with Him.

Talk About It

- What have you wondered about the Bible?
- Is there anything in the Bible that has been confusing to you?
- What would you like to learn about God as we read together?

Part 2: One Big Story

Sometimes we read the Bible as if it were hundreds of separate stories.

Noah and the ark.

Moses and the Red Sea.

David and Goliath.

Daniel and the lions.

Jesus feeding 5,000 people.

But underneath all those individual stories is one big story.

The Bible reveals the story of a God who loves His creation and is working to redeem and restore what has been broken. Ultimately, that story leads us to Jesus.

Here's an overview of the story of the Bible:

CREATION — God Creates a Good World

Genesis 1-2

In the beginning, God creates the heavens and the earth. He brings order out of chaos and fills His creation with life. He creates human beings in His image and invites them to live with Him and represent Him in the world. God looks at what He has made and calls it very good. This is what we were made for: life with God.

REBELLION — Sin Enters the Story

Genesis 3-11

Human beings are given a choice to trust God's wisdom or to decide for themselves what is good and what is evil. They choose their own way. Sin enters the world, damaging our relationship with God, one another, ourselves, and creation. But God doesn't abandon His creation. From the beginning, He begins working to rescue, redeem, and restore.

ISRAEL — God Chooses a People

Genesis 12-Malachi

God calls Abraham and promises that through his family, all the nations of the earth will be blessed. That family becomes the people of Israel. God rescues them from slavery, gives them His presence, and teaches them a new way to live. They are called to show the world what God is like.

Again and again they struggle to trust Him, but God remains faithful. And throughout their story, God promises that a King is coming who will make things right.

JESUS — The King Arrives

Matthew–John

Jesus comes and announces: “The Kingdom of God is near.”

He heals the sick, welcomes outsiders, forgives sins, confronts evil, and shows people exactly what God is like. Through His death and resurrection, Jesus defeats sin and death and makes a way for us to be reconciled to God. But Jesus doesn’t simply offer us forgiveness. He invites us into life with Him.

THE CHURCH — God’s Spirit Fills His People

Acts–Jude

After Jesus rises from the dead and ascends to the Father, He sends the Holy Spirit. God’s presence now lives in His people.

The followers of Jesus take the good news of His Kingdom everywhere they go, forming communities of people learning to live the way of Jesus.

PRESENT DAY — We Are Part of God’s Story

God is still writing His story, and **YOU are part of that story.**

God wants you to know Him and have a relationship with Him. Through the Holy Spirit, His presence is with us, helping us know Him, become more like Jesus, and live the way He created us to live.

And God invites us to partner with Him. Wherever we go—our homes, schools, friendships, teams, and neighborhoods—we get to show people what God is like and help bring His Kingdom to Earth.

God’s story is still unfolding, and we get to be part of what He is doing.

NEW CREATION — God Makes All Things New

Revelation

The Bible ends with a beautiful picture of where God’s story is going. God doesn’t abandon the world He created. He restores it.

He makes all things new. Heaven and Earth come together, God lives with His people, and everything that sin has broken is finally made right. There will be no more death, pain, sadness, or evil. God’s Kingdom will come in its fullness, and we will live with Him forever in His renewed creation.

This is the hope we are moving toward: God making all things new and dwelling with His people forever.

Part 3: How should we read the bible?

Here are four things to remember whenever you open Scripture.

1. LOOK FOR GOD

It's easy to read Bible stories and focus entirely on the people.

Be brave like David.

Have faith like Daniel.

Obey like Noah.

There may be things we can learn from each of them, but they aren't the heroes. God is.

So one of the best questions we can ask when reading Scripture is:

What does this show me about God?

What is He doing?

What is He like?

What does He care about?

How is He loving, rescuing, restoring, correcting, leading, or pursuing people?

The more we understand God's character, the more we learn to trust Him.

KEEP LOOKING FOR GOD

Looking for God doesn't stop when you close your Bible! **God is with you and at work all around you.** You can learn to notice Him at school, at home, while you're playing, or when you're with your friends.

Maybe you notice God's kindness through someone who helps you. Maybe you see something beautiful He created. Maybe a Bible verse comes to mind when you need it, or you feel a nudge to encourage someone who is having a hard day.

You can talk to God about all of it. Try asking, **"God, help me notice You today. Show me what You are doing and how I can join You."**

"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

— Jeremiah 29:13

2. REMEMBER WHO GOD IS AND WHO HE SAYS YOU ARE

The Bible teaches us how to live, but following Jesus isn't simply about following a list of rules. Before God tells us what to do, He shows us who He is and reminds us who we are.

God wants a relationship with you.

His Word tells us that we are made in His image, deeply loved, known by Him, and invited to be part of His family and His Kingdom.

Who we believe we are shapes how we live.

So when you read Scripture, don't only ask:

What am I supposed to do?

Also ask:

What does this show me about who God is?

What does God say is true about me?

How does knowing this change the way I live?

We don't obey God to earn His love or prove that we are good enough.

We live differently because we know we are loved by God and trust that His way is good.

3. READ GOD'S WORD WITH GOD

We don't have to read the Bible alone. The same Holy Spirit who inspired Scripture is present with us as we read it. So before you begin, pray something simple:

Holy Spirit, help me understand what I'm reading.

Show me what You want me to see. Help me know You better.

Then pay attention.

Something might stand out. You might have a question. You might notice something about God you've never seen before. You may sense God inviting you to trust Him or respond in some way. Or you might not notice anything at all. That's okay too! The important thing is that we're learning to be with God and listen.

Part 4: Let's practice

Choose one passage to read together:

David and Goliath — 1 Samuel 17:1-50

Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man — Mark 2:1-12

Jesus Feeds the 5,000 — Mark 6:30-44

Jesus' Teaching — Luke 6:27-49

The Good Samaritan — Luke 10:25-37

Jesus Raises Lazarus — John 11:1-44

Paul Meets Jesus — Acts 9:1-31

Before you read, invite the Holy Spirit to speak.

Then read slowly.

NOTICE

What stands out to you?

What happened in the passage?

Is there anything you don't understand?

KNOW

What do we learn about God?

What does this show us about Jesus or God's Kingdom?

What does this passage show us about who we are or who God created us to be?

Where does this passage fit into God's bigger story?

LISTEN

Is there anything you sense God highlighting to you?

What might God want you to know or remember?

RESPOND

Is God inviting you to trust Him?

Is there something you want to ask Him?

Is there something He is inviting you to do?

Take a few minutes to pray about what you discovered.

Part 5: Memorize God's Word Together

Reading Scripture isn't something we only do once. As we return to God's Word again and again, we become more familiar with God's voice, God's character, and God's ways.

One way we can carry Scripture with us is by memorizing it.

Choose a verse to memorize together:

John 10:10

John 14:6

2 Corinthians 5:17

Proverbs 3:5-6

Philippians 4:8

John 3:16

Write it somewhere you'll see it.

Say it in the car. Put it on the refrigerator.

Talk about what it means.

And don't make memorizing Scripture about getting every word perfect.

The goal is to let God's Word take root in us.

KEEP GOING

You've learned a lot about the Bible, but this is just the beginning. As you keep reading, keep asking questions, keep listening, and keep inviting God to meet you in His Word.

Remember, the goal isn't simply to know more about the Bible. **It's to know God.** And as you get to know Him, you'll learn to recognize His voice, trust His character, follow Jesus, and discover what it looks like to be part of His story.

So keep opening your Bible. **God is excited to meet you there!**