

How Not to Read the Bible: How We Got the Bible
February 2, 2025

As you join this discussion, let the Holy Spirit guide you. Share your thoughts and reflect on the message. Work through the guide by reading Scripture and answering a few questions.

Open Up

- If you had to describe the Bible in one word (without using "holy" or "scripture"), what word would you choose and why?
- What is a book, movie, or TV show completely surprised you with how the story unfolded? How did it change your perspective on the plot or characters?

Read Together:

Proverbs 26:4-5

Do not answer a fool according to his folly, or you yourself will be just like him. Answer a fool according to his folly, or he will be wise in his own eyes.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

1 Corinthians 15:17

*And **if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.***

John 20:31

*But these are written **that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.***

Discuss Together:

- How does understanding the historical process of how the Bible was written and collected impact how we read and trust it today?

- The message outlines how both the Old and New Testaments were collected and recognized as scripture. Why do you think the early church accepted some writings and rejected others?
- What is the difference between "The Stories in the Bible" and "The Story of the Bible"? How does recognizing this difference help us navigate difficult passages?
- 2 Timothy 3:16-17 states that "all Scripture is God-breathed." What does this mean in practical terms for how we study and apply the Bible?
- How have you seen scripture used as a weapon rather than a life-giving tool? How can we shift towards reading and sharing it in a healthier way?
- In what ways do you see the Bible as an invitation rather than just an answer book? How does this change your approach to reading it?

Pray:

Pray for God to give you wisdom and discernment as you read Scripture so that you can see the bigger story He is telling and not get stuck on complicated or confusing details. Pray that the Bible would be life-giving and not a source of frustration or division.