

What is the Bible?

- The Bible is a **Light** (or lamp) that helps us find the Way in this dark world of sin. God's Word keeps us from stumbling and helps us stay on the path of life. Psalm 119:105, Psalm 16:11, John 14:6, Ephesians 6:12
- The Bible is a storehouse of **Seed**—the Seed of Truth that falls on our hearts as we hear the Word of Jesus. The Word of truth brings a harvest of righteousness. Luke 8:11, 2 Corinthians 9:10
- The Bible is a **Sword**. It is the Sword the Spirit that can cut through all the excuses we make, and the doubts we have—the things that get wrapped around our hearts. Ephesians 6:17, Hebrews 4:12, Ephesians 1:13
- The Bible is the **Word of God**. It is the inspired, written Word that becomes the living Word as the Holy Spirit makes it come alive in our hearts. The Word brings life. John 8:51, John 5:25, 1 Peter 1:23
- The Bible is **Truth**—the ultimate Truth that can never be changed and that will never end. John 17:17, 2 Timothy 2:15, Mark 13:31, Revelation 22:18-19

The Bible is also called:

- The Law - (Matthew 12:5)
- The Scriptures - (Matthew 21:42)
- The Sword of the Spirit - (Ephesians 6:17)
- The Word of God - (Mark 7:13)
- The Word of Christ - (Colossians 3:16)
- The Word of the Lord - (1 Peter 1:25)
- The Word of Life - (Philippians 2:16)
- The Word of Truth - (Ephesians 1:13)

The Bible...

- helps us say no to sin when we are tempted to do wrong. (Psalm 119:111)
- helps our faith grow stronger. (Romans 10:17)
- keeps us walking in the way of truth by showing us right from wrong. (Psalm 119:30, 105)
- helps us learn more about God. (Hebrews 5:13-14)
- helps us give a reason (answer) to those who want to know about our faith—what we believe. (1 Peter 3:15)
- encourages us by reminding us of God's promises and faithfulness. (Psalm 138:2)
- helps us know what God wants us to do when we are faced with a choice. (Psalm 25:4-5)

Bible facts

- The Bible consists of the Old Testament (OT) and the New Testament (NT).
- The word 'testament' means 'covenant' or 'contract.' The word 'Bible' comes from Latin *biblia*, meaning 'books.'
- There are 66 Books in the Bible: 39 in the Old Testament; 27 in the New Testament.
- The Bible was written over a period of about 1500 years—from 1450 B.C. to about 95 A.D.
- The Bible was written by over 40 different authors who were inspired by the Holy Spirit.
- The Bible was written in three languages: Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek. It was first translated into English in 1382 A.D., by John Wycliffe, and has now been translated into over 2000 languages.
- The Bible was the first book to be printed on a printing press in 1454 A.D. by Johannes Gutenberg, who invented the press.
- The longest book in the Bible is Psalms.
- The shortest book in the Bible is 2 John.
- The longest chapter in the Bible is Psalm 119.
- The shortest chapter in the Bible is Psalm 117.
- The longest verse in the Bible is Esther 8:9.
- The shortest verse in the Bible is John 11:35.
- The Bible remains the best-selling book in the world.