

What is the Bible? (Grades K-2)

The Bible is an amazing, wonderful and powerful book that has been read by millions of people all over the world. However, when you first start to read the Bible, it may be very confusing. It is our hope that this lesson will help you gain a better understanding of the Bible and encourage you to read it every day. Let's get started!

The Bible is actually a collection of **66 books** that tell us about God and things that happened long ago. There are two main sections of the Bible:

1. The **Old** Testament. These are the books of the Bible that were written **before** Jesus Christ was born.
2. The **New** Testament. These are the books of the Bible that were written **after** Jesus Christ was born.

Old Testament



New Testament

The four basic types of books in the Bible

There are four different types of books in the Bible. The first type is **History**. These are stories about things that really happened. These stories help us understand important things about the past. For example, have you ever wondered about where everything came from? The book of Genesis tells us that God created everything in just six days. Historical books also teach us

things about God. For example, when a man named Daniel was thrown into a den of lions for praying, God protected him! (Daniel chapter 6)

Activity: color the picture of Daniel below.



Source: <https://www.coloringpages.net/pages/bible-38.html>

The next type of book in the Bible is **Poetry**. These books often use creative “word pictures” to express ideas. Psalm 91 is a great example:

“For he will rescue you from every trap and protect you from deadly disease. He will cover you with his feathers. He will shelter you with his wings. His faithful promises are your armor and protection.” Psalm 91:3-4



credit: www.freebibleimages.org

Although God does not have feathers, the image of a hen covering her chicks does a great job of describing how God loves and protects us! In the book of Psalms, the Lord is called a shepherd (Psalm 23), a strong tower (Psalm 61:3) and a shelter (Psalm 27:5). These images are used to describe how God keeps us safe.

Activity: draw a picture of someone or something that makes you feel safe. It can be your parents, brother, sister—anyone you would like. It could also be your home, church, school or favorite pet. Have fun!

The third type of book in the Bible is **Prophecy**. The prophets were people who served as God's messengers. These books often contain warnings from God to Israel, Judah and other nations to stop sinning and predictions about the future. A lot of these books contain prophecies about Jesus. Some of these predictions have already come true while others will be fulfilled when Jesus Christ returns.

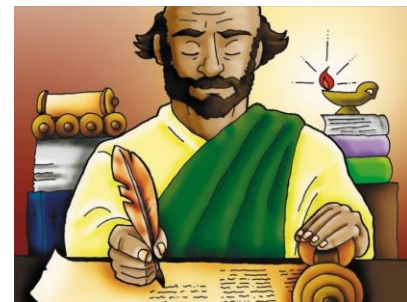


Fun fact: did you know that the book of Micah (chapter 5 verse 2) predicted that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem hundreds of years before it happened!

The fourth and final type of book in the Bible is **Letters**.

The Letters were written by the Apostles to encourage Christians and answer questions about Jesus, God, and Christianity. The writers of these books were inspired by God (more on this later).

These books are named after (1) the person the letter was written to (example 1 Timothy, (2) the church the letter was written to (Romans), or (3) the person who wrote the letter (James).



Who wrote the Bible?

The Bible was written by 40 different people over 1,400 years on four continents yet only had one author. Can you guess who? If you said God, you're right! According to 2 Timothy 3:16, God told the people who wrote the Bible what to say: "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness," 2 Timothy 3:16

That is why we call the Bible “God’s Word”. How do we know that the Bible is really God’s Word? We will talk about that in our next lesson: “Can We Trust the Bible?”

Because the Bible is God’s Word, we can trust it to answer questions about where we came from, our purpose in life, right / wrong and our eternal destination.

Some tips for studying the Bible:

- Ask God to help you understand the Bible
- Go to church every week
- Get a Bible designed for your age and then read it every day
- Remember that the Bible is really all about Jesus Christ



“For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day.” Exodus 20:11