



Access the Word

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ACCESSING THE BIBLE

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Word for life

HOW TO FIND RELEVANT VERSES FOR ISSUES YOU MAY FACE

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Where in the Word?

HELP IN FINDING KEY BIBLE STORIES AND BIBLE PEOPLE

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The Word: What happened when?

TIMELINE OF BIBLE EVENTS AND CHARACTERS

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Bible basics

A ROUGH GUIDE TO EVERY BOOK IN THE BIBLE AND MAPS

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Jargon buster

20 KEY WORDS EXPLAINED

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BIBLE LOCATOR

PROVERBS 3:1-6

BOOK CHAPTER VERSES

Old Testament

Genesis	Judges	1 Chronicles	Psalms	Lamentations	Obadiah	Haggai
Exodus	Ruth	2 Chronicles	Proverbs	Ezekiel	Jonah	Zechariah
Leviticus	1 Samuel	Ezra	Ecclesiastes	Daniel	Micah	Malachi
Numbers	2 Samuel	Nehemiah	Song of Songs	Hosea	Nahum	
Deuteronomy	1 Kings	Esther	Isaiah	Joel	Habakkuk	
Joshua	2 Kings	Job	Jeremiah	Amos	Zephaniah	

New Testament

Matthew	Acts	Galatians	1 Thessalonians	Titus	1 Peter	3 John
Mark	Romans	Ephesians	2 Thessalonians	Philemon	2 Peter	Jude
Luke	1 Corinthians	Philippians	1 Timothy	Hebrews	1 John	Revelation
John	2 Corinthians	Colossians	2 Timothy	James	2 John	



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01:

YPS SPECIAL EDITION: GUIDE TO THE BIBLE: 01: ACCESS THE WORD

THE STARTING POINT ...

DO YOU WANT TO READ THE BIBLE?

YES – It's good stuff!

DO YOU NEED HELP READING IT?

NO – I'm fine just reading different bits.

NO – I find it boring and don't understand it.

DON'T UNDERSTAND IT?
Have a look at my five tips.

YES – How can I read the Bible?

BORING – If you feel like this then either you're reading the wrong parts of the Bible or perhaps you have the wrong attitude towards it. Try reading the 'Word for life' section of this guide and then have a read of Matthew, imagining you're meeting Jesus.

I'VE GOT FIVE TOP TIPS FOR YOU.

1. FIND A HELPFUL BIBLE.

2. PRAY BEFORE YOU READ IT.

3. READ THE PASSAGE TWICE.

4. USE NOTES TO HELP YOU.

5. ASK A PARENT OR YOUTH WORKER FOR HELP.



If you're sorted then that's cool. Try going even deeper though. Perhaps buy copies of the books mentioned at the back of this guide or try reading the Bible in a year.

TYPE: Different Bibles provide you with more or less help. Go for a Bible that includes comments on each book and extra bits of information, like an index. The NCV Youth Bible and the NIV Life Application Bible are good.

It's important to find a Bible that you find easy to read and that helps you to understand each passage. This means you need to think about the Bible translation and type of Bible you buy.

TRANSLATION: It's best if your Bible uses language that you understand. Try an NIV or NCV (Youth Bible). A copy of *The Message Bible* would be strongly recommended too.

BIBLE READING NOTES: You may find it helpful to use Bible reading notes such as YP's, shown on the inside back cover. These will help you to know where to start and help you understand the passages you read.

STUDY GUIDES: These often look at a particular book in the Bible for a month or so. They are helpful if you're interested in reading a book in the Bible but need a little help along the way.

IF YOU FIND IT DIFFICULT TO READ GENERALLY, TRY BUYING A COPY OF THE BIBLE ON AUDIO CD OR CASSETTE. ALTERNATIVELY, FIND A FILM VERSION OF A BIBLE CHARACTER AND THEN READ THE PASSAGES REFERRING SPECIFICALLY TO THEM.

THE BASICS ...

1. What is the Bible and who wrote it?

The Bible took over 1,500 years to write and was finished 2,000 years ago! It contains 66 books by about 40 human authors. In it, God reveals His will to you and me. One central theme is the offer of salvation through Christ. The Old Testament was written mostly in Hebrew (a few passages in Aramaic). About 200–300 years before the Christian era, the entire Old Testament was translated into Greek. The New Testament was first written in Greek. The Bible as we know it today is a translation from these original languages, yet retains the same power, reliability and inspiration that it first did.

Although the Bible has many human authors, it was God-inspired (2 Timothy 3:16) and can therefore be said to have one heavenly Author. Ultimately, God chose what went in and what got left out. As Vaughn Roberts says, 'It is just one book written by one author with one main subject'. That main subject being Jesus Christ.

2. Why should I read the Bible?

The Bible is more than just a piece of literature. It is the only written Word of God that we have today and as such it acts as an anchor in a world which is increasingly encouraging Christians to conform to its ways. Allow God to speak to you through the Bible. It will act as a filter for things of the world and a source of hope and encouragement for an eternal life with Christ. The Bible will also introduce you to your Creator, give you a reason for living and provide words of comfort when times are tough.

