

# YOU NOW HAVE YOUR OWN STUDY BIBLE!

Quick User Guide for beginners...



## THE BIBLE IS A COLLECTION OF 66 DIFFERENT BOOKS!

- Because it looks like one entire book you may think that you should open to the first page and begin reading. You could but it would be like picking up the first book in the library that you see.
- Each book has its own name, writer, and genre. Genre examples: history, wisdom, poems, prophecy, Gospels, and letters to the early church.



## GOD'S PEOPLE PASSED DOWN THE STORIES OF GOD

- God inspired the author's of each book to record the stories that have been passed down in families.
- The stories were not recorded in real time like we see today on the internet or newspapers.
- The writers of each book is not normally the title or name of the book.

## BEFORE YOU START READING



- You can go to the Bible reference page which is normally one of the first few pages.
- It lists all the books in the Old Testament and the New Testament by the name and the page number the book starts.
- When you go to that page number, there will be a summary of who wrote the book and what was happening when the book was written. This is important to read, to help us understand the story.

## NUMBERS HELP US NAVIGATE



- The big bold number is the chapter and there can be more than one chapter on a page unlike novels we read.
- The little number is for the verse or passage in the chapter.
- In order to find things easily, we always write the name of the book, then the chapter number, a colon (:), and the verses.

**Matthew 6: 9-13**  
Book Chapter Verses



## WE READ THE BIBLE WITH THESE 4 GUIDELINES

- **Scripture**-read from the Bible.
- **Traditions**-We take seriously the commentaries, creeds, hymns, worship, prayers, art, and actions of those who have gone before us in various times, places, and cultures.
- **Experience**: Each of us has our own unique experience with the triune God.
- **Reason**: We do not discount our thinking as we read the Bible, share the Gospel, ask questions, and seek answers.

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