

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE



Overview of the Bible

The Inspiration of the Bible:

All Scripture is God-breathed (inspired) and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

— 2 Timothy 3:16-17



Overview of the Bible

Why do we read the Bible?

- God speaks to us through it
- It teaches us
- It rebukes and corrects
- It thoroughly equips us for every good work
- It is a weapon of spiritual warfare
- It teaches us how to pray
- It helps us to live in purity
- It foretells and gives insight into human history



Overview of the Bible

The Authority of the Bible

The Westminster Confession

- The Bible is the inspired, written Word of God
- The infallible rule of faith and life
- The final authority in all matters
- Containing all things necessary for God's glory and our salvation
- The sufficient guide for all belief and practice



Overview of the Bible

How to Understand the Bible

The Big story: God's love relationship with humanity that was broken by us through sin and restored by God through Jesus Christ so that we can enjoy a relationship with Him forever.



Overview of the Bible

Principles:

- Be aware of our own views and assumptions
- Accept the divine inspiration and authority of scripture.
- The Bible can be understood.
- We use the studies of others.
- Ask questions:

Relating to **context**:

Relating to **content**:

Relating to **interpretation and application**:



Overview of the Bible

Types of Bible Literature

Law, history, poetry, stories, genealogies, love songs, hymns, prophecy, wisdom, letters, sermons, narrative and revelations.



Overview of the Bible

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy.

Creation. Early history of Israel. God's laws for His people.

Romans 10:4

Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.



Overview of the Bible

Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 and 2 Samuel, 1 and 2 Kings, 1 and 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah and Esther

Israel's history, individual stories and narratives

Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs

Poetry and Wisdom literature/'The Writings'



Overview of the Bible

**Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel,
Daniel**

**Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah,
Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai,
Zechariah, Malachi**

The prophets. The call of God to His people to
be faithful to Him. The foretelling of Christ.



Overview of the Bible

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John

The gospels. The accounts of Jesus life, death, resurrection and teachings.

Acts

The empowerment of God's people to fulfil God's plan for the church to make Christ known and the advance of His kingdom.



Overview of the Bible

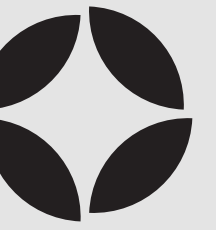
The New Testament letters/epistles

Letters to individuals, a church or group of churches to teach about Christ and the gospel, encourage, warn and direct.

Revelation

Letters to seven churches

End times. God's justice and judgement.



Overview of the Bible

How do we read the Bible?

- Pray
- Systematically. Planned. OT and NT.
- Patterns and Focus
- Take time
- Keep a journal
- Use study aids
- Memorise



Overview of the Bible

Share with your formation group your approach to reading the Bible.

How do you experience the Bible impacting your own life?

What do you find the biggest challenge to consistently reading and studying the Bible?

What do you find hard in understanding and applying the Bible?