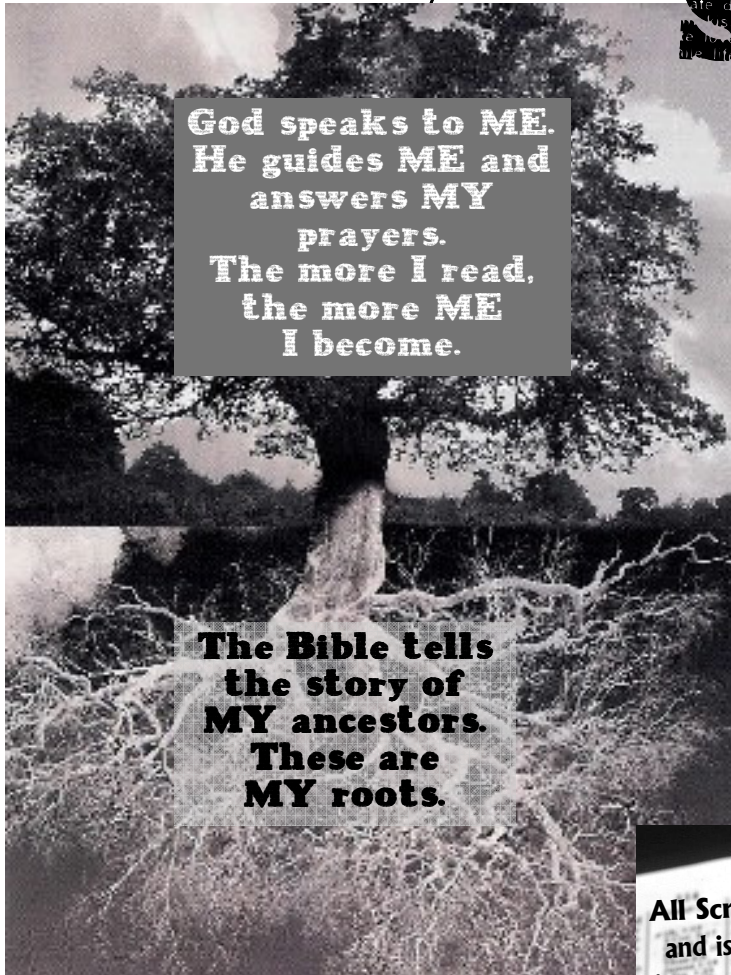


Rooted in God's Word

Read it. Live it. Pray it. Love it.



God speaks to ME. He guides ME and answers MY prayers. The more I read, the more ME I become.

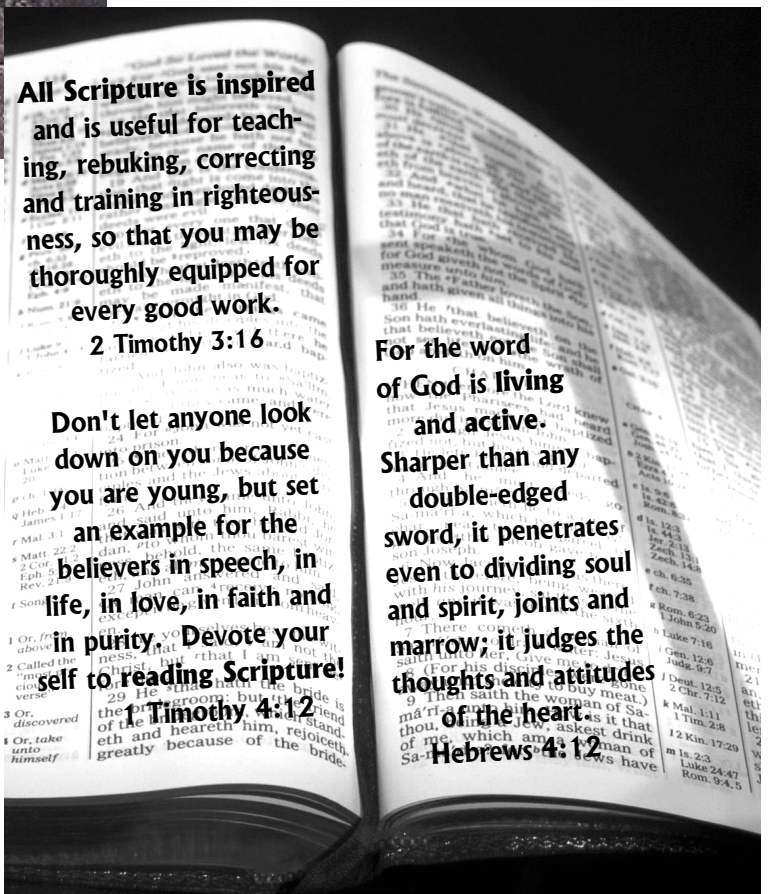
The Bible tells the story of MY ancestors. These are MY roots.

Scriptures

- ★ Scripture is the inspired word of God that is **useful** for your life and **necessary** for growing in faith.
- ★ **God speaks directly to YOU** through His living Word.
- ★ Even though the **Bible tells about the history of our faith** and this world, it is not a “history” book.
- ★ Even though the **Bible talks about creation and miracles**, it is not a “science” book.
- ★ The Bible is *only one* of our three “Religion” books. (We also utilize the Catechism and Catholic Tradition to define our faith).

So what are the 10 most important things to know about the Bible?

1. The Bible is the infallible and inerrant Word of God
2. The Bible is one of the three ways that God reveals Himself to us.
3. The Bible shows us how to fill the God-shaped hole inside us.
4. The Bible is 73 separate books that tell us one complete story of Salvation History that we need to know in order to be saved.
5. The Bible is the best way to know Jesus, the high point of Revelation.
6. The Bible is written in ancient language, telling eternal truths.
7. The Bible tells of the covenants that God makes with the human race in order bring us into union with Him.
8. The Bible has been correctly interpreted by the Magisterium of the Church for 2000 years.
9. The Bible contains the Old Testament, which tells of the preparation for the Messiah.
10. The Bible contains the New Testament, which tells of the Messiah (Jesus) and his Church.



All Scripture is inspired and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that you may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity. Devote your self to reading Scripture!

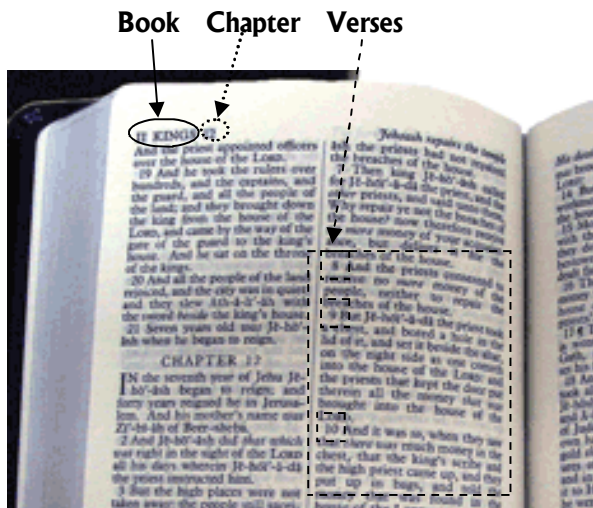
1 Timothy 4:12

For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

Looking Up Passages in Scripture

Find the Table of Contents at the beginning of your Bible to locate the name of the **BOOK** and page number.



2 Kings 12:8-10, 12

Book Name
(find it in the index)
If more than one book has the same name, a number will go before the name (like 1 John and 2 John)

Chapter
All books have more than one chapter. The chapter is always *before* the colon.

Verses
Verses are numbered on *after* the colon. This one asks for 8, 9, 10, and 12.

Emergency Numbers!

- When in **sorrow**,call John 14:1-4
- When men **fail** you,call Psalm 27:1-3, 5
- If you face an **impossible** task,call Matthew 19:26
- When you're feeling **weak**.....call 2 Timothy 1:7
- When you want **peace** and rest.....call Matthew 11:28-30
- What should I **wear**?.....call 1 Timothy 2:9-10
- When you want **courage** for a task.....call Deuteronomy 31:6
- When you think life is all about **money**call Mark 10:17-25
- How can I **get what I really want**?.....call Psalm 37:4-5
- Understanding **Christianity**.....call John 3:16
- When you are **lonely** and fearful.....call Psalm 23
- When someone has **wronged** us.....call Matthew 6:14-16
- How I should I treat **people I don't like**.....call Matthew 5:43-44
- When your thoughts are too **negative**.....call Colossians 3:1-10
- When you have **sinned**,call Psalm 51:1-3, 10-12

Remember, God will speak **DIRECTLY** to you to

- ★ **Guide you,**
- ★ **Support & LOVE you,**
- ★ **Encourage you, and**
- ★ **Re-direct you!**

Read a little bit of Scripture each week or every day to become a "better version of yourself!"

- How to respect **authority**..... call 1 Peter 2:13-17
- When you are quick to **judge** others..... call Matthew 7:1-3
- When you want a little **joy**..... call Philippians 4:4-9
- When you **speak** too harshly.....call James 3:3-6
- When you really **need something** from God.....call Matthew 7:7-9
- How can **suffering** be a good thing?.....call Romans 5:3-5
- When you need help through **temptation**...call 1 Corinthians 10:13
- When you want to be **great**.....call Matthew 20:26-28
- When you **worry**,call Matthew 6:25-34
- When God seems **far away**.....call Psalm 139: 1-4, 13-14, 23-24
- When your **faith** needs stirring.....call Hebrews 11:1-4
- How does God want me to **love** others?....call 1 Corinthians 13:4-7
- What does God want **from you**?.....call Romans 12:1-8, 14-16
- For Paul's secret to **happiness**.....call Colossians 3:12-17
- Connecting **Sports** to Faith.....call 1 Corinthians 9:24-27



Praying With Scripture

For the word of God is living and active! Hebrews 4:12

★ Find a Verse

When you come across something that is meaningful to you, take a closer look. Single out one verse or even one phrase in a verse and read it slowly. Jesus talks to YOU every time you read His Word! Take personally what you read and allow yourself to soak up His loving message to you! Read it out loud!

★ Personalize it!

To “personalize” Scripture, change the formal words like **You** to personal words like **Me** or **I**.

For Example: “And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful.”

Get Personal: “God, let your peace rule in my heart.

For I am a member of Your body. I am called to live in peace. I am thankful for...”

Try one of these:

For Healing: **Psalm 30:3** “**O Lord, my God, I cried out to you and you healed me.**”

O Lord, my God, I cry out to you! Please heal _____. Or thank you for healing _____...

For Guidance: **Jeremiah 29:11** “**I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. Plans to give you a future full of hope!**” God, help me to trust You and seek Your will for my life...

When you’re fighting: **Matthew 6:44** “**Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.**”
God, help me to treat _____ with kindness. Please bless my enemies: _____...

★ Pray with it!

For Example: **1 Corinthians 13:4** “**Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, not rude.**”

Praise God:

I praise You, God, because You are patient,
I praise You because You are kind!

Thank God:

Thank You, God, for these patient people
in my life...

Say You’re Sorry:

I’m sorry, God, when I am impatient...
I’m sorry when I am rude...

Ask God:

Lord, help me to be more patient with...
Help me to be more kind to...



There is no “wrong” way to pray with Scripture. Just talk to me. I love you –Jesus

Family Discussion Guide

These ideas are meant to help your family practice reading, understanding, and applying Scripture more in your life. We recognize that when teens discuss and share faith *at home*, they are more likely to *live faith in their life!*

A walk through the Bible

To help your family get a "Big Picture" of the Bible, this is a guide: one or two chapters each day for 4 weeks.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Genesis Chapters 1 & 2	Creation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Genesis Chapter 3	The first sin
<input type="checkbox"/>	Genesis Chapter 6:5-9, 17	The flood
<input type="checkbox"/>	Genesis Chapter 15 & 17:1-16	God's Covenant with Abraham
<input type="checkbox"/>	Genesis Chapter 37, 42-45	Joseph and his brothers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exodus Chapters 2-4	The birth and call of Moses
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exodus Chapters 12-14	God's victory over Pharaoh
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exodus Chapters 19-20	Covenant at Sinai & 10 Commandments
<input type="checkbox"/>	Judges Chapters 13-16	Sampson
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 Samuel Chapter 17	David and Goliath
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 Samuel Chapters 6-7	God's promise to David
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 Chronicles Chapters 1-3	King Solomon
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 Chronicles Chapters 34-36	from King Josiah to fall of Jerusalem
<input type="checkbox"/>	Psalms Chapters 51 & 139	David's Repentance & God's presence
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wisdom Chapters 7-9	God's wisdom
<input type="checkbox"/>	Micah Chapters 1-3	The sins of Judah & Israel
<input type="checkbox"/>	Isaiah Chapters 11-12	Promises of hope
<input type="checkbox"/>	Malachi Chapter 3	The Day of the Lord
<input type="checkbox"/>	Luke Chapter 2	The birth & childhood of Jesus
<input type="checkbox"/>	Matthew Chapters 5-7	Jesus' Sermon on the Mount
<input type="checkbox"/>	Luke Chapters 15-16	Jesus' parables
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mark Chapter 15	The death of Jesus
<input type="checkbox"/>	John Chapter 20	The resurrection of Jesus
<input type="checkbox"/>	Acts Chapter 9:1-22	The Conversion of Saul (Paul)
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 Corinthians Chapters 12-14	Christian community
<input type="checkbox"/>	Galatians Chapters 1-3	Faith and the Law
<input type="checkbox"/>	James Chapters 1-5	Christian living
<input type="checkbox"/>	Revelation Chapter 21-22	The new heaven and new earth

★ It's OK to tab, mark in, and highlight verses in your Bible!

★ *Prima* in Latin means first; use the Prima method to keep God's word *first* in your life!

Pray first
Read attentively
Image the context
Meditate on the meaning
Apply what you learn

In a nutshell:

1. God's **SET UP**—God made everything GOOD and set us up in the Garden of Eden
2. Our **MESS UP**—God gave us a free will and we choose our self over God
3. God's **RESET**—God wants to reconcile with us to reunite us with Himself!!!

★ **God's Ultimate Goal:** To REUNITE all of His children "around the dinner table" (so everyone is in a right relationship with Him & each other)

Emergency Numbers:

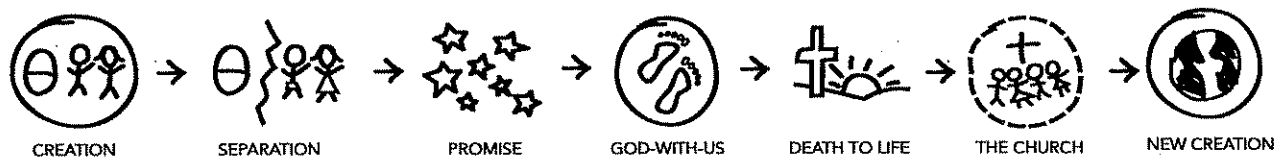
Refer to the "Emergency Numbers" to find verses that address specific concerns. Have each person pick one verse to look up. Help each other find each verse and talk about how it relates to your life. Or, pick one verse every day or every other day to share.

**Parents and Teens, we want your feedback!
 Please share your thoughts with us at www.stjudes.org**

A SUMMARY NARRATIVE OF THE BIBLE

SEEING THE BIG PICTURE

There are a variety of ways to see the panorama of God's story. One way is to look at God's Story as a series of episodes. An episode is a distinct event that's a part of a greater whole...like a chapter in a book or a scene from a movie. The following episodes will help give us a big picture of God's story and allow us to see more clearly God's desire to restore his relationship with us.



* God is represented by the Greek letter *Theta* "Θ", sometimes used to abbreviate *Theos*, meaning "God."

** The circle around the symbols represents a whole and complete relationship with God.

BIBLE SUMMARY NARRATIVE:

This story begins as the Creator of all, God, was preparing the earth as a place for life. God filled the earth with plants and all kinds of creatures. The most special of these creatures were human beings, formed in God's own likeness...*in God's image*.

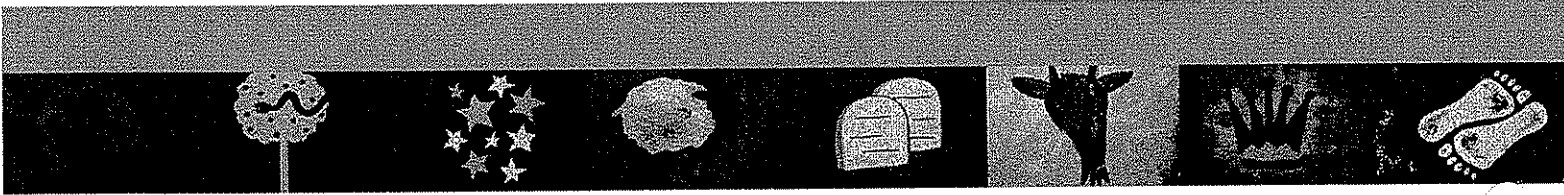
God entrusted the humans to care for the earth and all of **creation**. God walked closely with them, showing them the best possible way to live. Under God's reign, the humans lived a life that was whole and complete.

In spite of this close relationship, the humans rebelled, choosing to live their own way over God's. Living outside of God's reign brought great consequences. Now **separated** from God, humans became subject to sickness, pain, and death.

Soon, humans spiraled out of control, acting out in selfishness and violence against one another. Determined to restore his creation, God chose a man named Abraham and his descendants to be a special **people**. God made a *covenant* with them, **promising** that they would extend God's blessing and restoration to the entire world!

These special people, called the Israelites, were called to live differently, showing the world what it means to live closely with God. God gave them a beautiful land where they enjoyed great blessings and grew into a large nation.

But it wasn't long before the Israelites chose to live their own way over God's. In their rebellion the Israelites encountered great struggles and became slaves of other nations. But God continued to give his people hope, promising to send a rescuer to break the power of their selfishness and rebellion.



Enter a man named Jesus. His life, teaching, and miracles all proved he was who he said he was: God's son in human form...**God-with-us!** Jesus lived a remarkable life, always choosing to live God's way. He called people to follow him, inviting them to be a part of the "Kingdom of God" and live under God's reign once again.

Jesus chose a surprising way to help humans be restored to God—because he'd lived perfectly, God allowed Jesus to become our substitute and take on the required punishment for all of humanity's rebellion. After suffering a brutal **death**, Jesus came **back to life** three days later and was seen by more than 500 eyewitnesses. The power of selfishness and rebellion was conquered once and for all!

Jesus challenged his followers to live as he did and sent God's Spirit to live inside of them and empower them. This was the beginning of **The Church**—a community of people across the globe who follow Jesus in living God's way and share in God's mission to restore the world.

This story continues with us. We are called to be The Church—a new kind of community that'll show the world what it means to live in God's reign...returning to the life we were created for.

The end of this amazing story lies ahead. Jesus promised to return one day and bring about God's **new creation**. God's reign will come in fullness, restoring all things to the way God designed them. *Until then, may we live in God's ways, giving people a glimpse of what life is like in the coming Kingdom.*

INTERACTION:

As you read or listened to this narrative what did you picture in your mind?

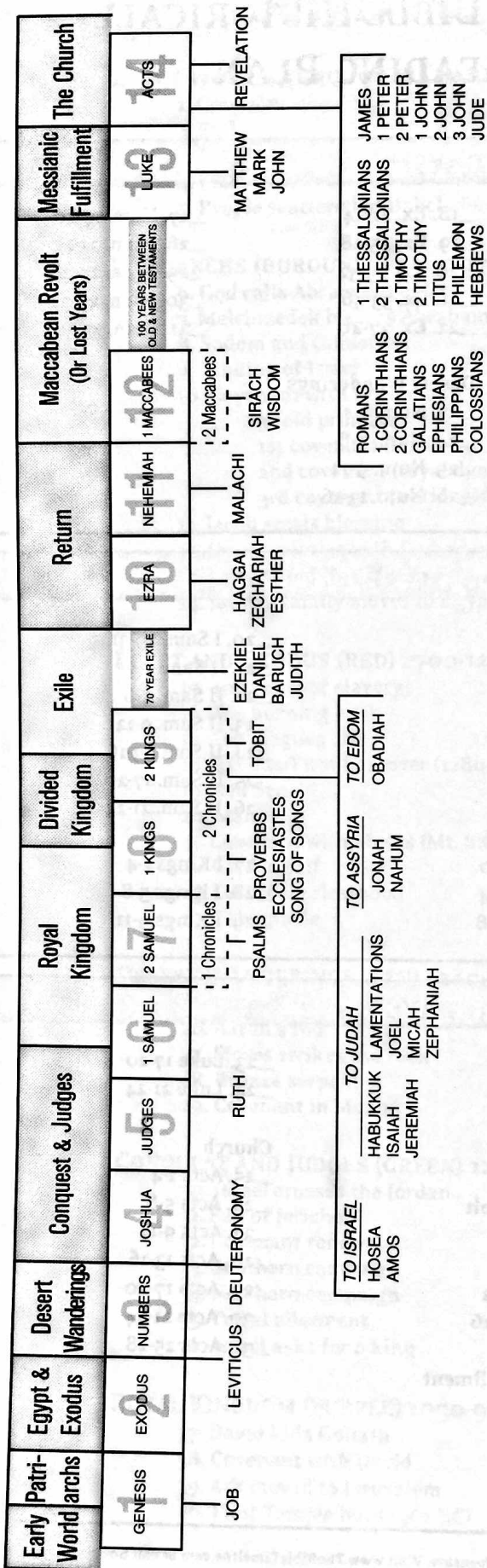
What did this summary help you notice for the first time about God's Story?

What do you think God's Story is ultimately about?

How do you think looking at God's entire story at once is helpful?

How does this story continue right now? How are we a part of it?

NARRATIVE AND SUPPLEMENTAL BOOKS



Key to Period Colors

Early World	Turquoise	The color of the earth viewed from space
Patriarchs	Burgundy	God's blood covenant with Abraham
Egypt and Exodus	Red	The Red Sea
Desert Wanderings	Tan	The color of the desert
Conquest and Judges	Green	The green hills of Canaan
Royal Kingdom	Purple	Royalty
Divided Kingdom	Black	Israel's darkest period
Exile	Baby blue	Israel "singing the blues" in Babylon
Return	Yellow	Judah returning home to brighter days
Maccabean Revolt	Orange	Fire in the oil lamps in the purified temple
Messianic Fulfillment	Gold	Gifts of the Magi
The Church	White	The spotless Bride of Christ

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