

Discover why the
Hands-On Bible is the book
you can't put down.

These quick, funny overviews are written in a style you can relate to.

INTRODUCTIONS

tell you about things you won't want to miss in each book of the Bible.

GENESIS *The Book of Beginnings*

Look for **hidden messages in Genesis!**
Genesis is all about beginnings. There's too much to tell here, so you'll just have to read the book yourself. **IT'S AWESOME!**

FAMOUS FIRSTS IN GENESIS

- CREATION OF THE WORLD
- FIRST MAN
- FIRST WOMAN
- FIRST MARRIAGE
- FIRST SIN
- FIRST RESULTS OF SIN
- FIRST KIDS
- FIRST MURDER
- FIRST TIME GOD POINTED OUT HIS PLAN TO SAVE PEOPLE FROM THEIR SIN

Starting From Scratch

In a shocking move, God created the whole universe by just speaking. God said, "Let there be light." And there was light. It was the same way with the land, and the animals—everything! All God had to say was "Let there be..."—and there was.

Not bad! In fact, according to God, it was all good. For details, see Genesis 1:1-2:3.

It's All Good!**Trouble in Paradise**

Adam and Eve, the first people God created, got busted. After eating the forbidden fruit, God questioned them, and the finger-pointing began. "She made me do it," said Adam. "The snake made me do it," said Eve. The snake could not be reached for comment. Read Genesis 3:14-24 to see God's reply.



Garden of Eden Police Dept. #00001

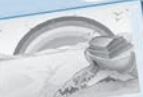


Garden of Eden Police Dept. #00002

Sends you straight into the BIBLE!

COOL facts!**Weather News**

Rain, rain, and more rain
Noah's weather report from God was rain—and plenty of it. Forty days of rain, in fact. Enough rain to flood the whole earth. But God had a plan. Read all about it in Genesis 6-8.

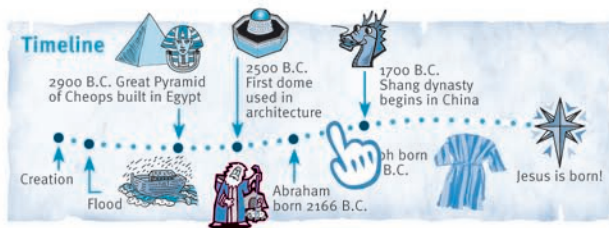


Colorful covenant... God said, the rainbow would be the sign of his promise to never destroy the earth by flood again. Remember that the next time you see a rainbow!

How big?...The ark was four stories high. Go outside and look at your house. How many stories (floors) does it have? Imagine a boat four stories high!

Valuable INFO!**What Else?**

Every introduction includes a **TIMELINE** to show you when the action took place. Dates from world history add to the fun!



HANDS-ON BIBLE EXPERIENCES

This Bible will excite, ignite, and invite you to experience the Bible as you read it. **Science experiments, crafts, journals, snacks**—you'll do the Bible. And that means you'll remember the Bible!

Learn it!

Do it!

Share it!

Live it!

Can you find the secret message in this activity?

That's why we've included **SECRET MESSAGES** throughout the Bible that send you searching for *other* places in the Bible. Think of it as a Bible treasure hunt! You'll explore the Bible like never before and discover that God's Word is an amazing whole, not just disconnected books under one cover.

BONUS
Free Family devos,
music, and more at
MyHandsOnBible.com

Did someone say "hospital"?

No, the word is *hospitality*. And that's what Abraham showed his three visitors when he fed them a meal. **Read Genesis 18:1-15.** *Hospitality* means sharing your home and food. Make this snack to show hospitality the next time your friends come over.

1 Cut a round pita bread in half. (A tortilla would work, too.)

2 Stuff with slices of cheese and lunchmeat.

3 Invite a few friends, and chow down!

I warmed my sandwich in the microwave!

You're on your way!
To practicing hospitality, that is. What other ways can you show hospitality to your friends this week?

REAL BIBLE HEROES AND LOTS MORE

BIBLE BIOS

Hear From the Heroes

BIBLE HERO BIOGRAPHIES

talk straight to you, heart-to-heart. These heroes admit mistakes, joke around, confess when they're scared, and marvel at how God used them. Real people. Real heroes. Real Bible learning. And every biography gives you something to do.

Hi, my name is **ABRAHAM**

(shepherd, parent of a nation)

Like all of God's heroes (except Jesus), I made some whopper mistakes. But I know I did at least one thing right. When the Lord told me to leave my house and friends, I obeyed. God just said "go" and promised that my children would become a strong nation. But many years went by, and my wife, Sarah, and I almost gave up on God's promise. We still had no children, and we were old! Imagine your grandma and grandpa, or even your great-grandparents, having a baby. Well, that's exactly what happened to us. I was 100 years old and Sarah was 90 when we had Isaac—my wife just couldn't stop laughing! In fact, we picked a name for our son that showed our joy. Isaac means "laughter." That's no joke!

Want to see a couple of them? Check out **Genesis 12:10-20** and **Genesis 20:1-7**.

When Isaac grew into his teens, I had the worst day of my life. Read **Genesis 22:1-18** to find out what happened. During that frightening day, I obeyed God, and God took care of my son and me. You'll probably make a few mistakes in your life, but whatever you do, obey God. If you follow God's lead, he'll take you to the right place.

Around this time, God changed Abraham's name. If you want to know what it was before, check out **Genesis 17:1-8**.

before & after

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (**GENESIS 1:1**).

Look at a sheet of dark construction paper. What do you see? Nothing, right? That's all there was—nothing!—until God set about creating the universe.

Look at **GENESIS 1:2**.

Read **GENESIS 1:1** out loud. Then take a sheet of light paper and get creative! Draw and color things God made: trees, birds, stars, the ocean, your family, your dog. Fill the page, just like God filled the heavens and earth!

And More

FUN fact

Noah had to build a big boat to hold the animals. (See what Noah was up to in **GENESIS 6:9-22**.) The ark was as tall as one and one-half football fields, as long as a four-story building, and as wide as a city block.

If God had asked Noah to fill the ark with popcorn, he would have had to pop about 6 million bags. **GOOD HAVE A MICROWAVE!** Pop up a bag of popcorn to celebrate what God did to save the world.

Lots of FUN FACTS

How big was Noah's ark? How many steps did Abram's journey take? Lots of Fun Facts help you understand Bible-times culture, Bible story details, and key biblical concepts. Each Fun Fact helps you see the Bible as true and amazing.

The facts are fun, true, and—yup—hands-on!

Plus 52 **KEY VERSE ACTIVITIES** help you learn, understand, and remember important Bible verses. That's one a week for a year! **Plus, 52 more great verses are highlighted!**

GET TO KNOW GOD BETTER WITH YOUR
HANDS-ON BIBLE

Creation
Genesis 1-2



WHAT IS THAT?!

Consider This:

- The giant squid's eye can be as big as 15 inches across! (That's three inches longer than your ruler!)
- A cockroach can live up to 30 days without a head! Eww!

It's a moth's wings up really close. Whether you look at God's creation up close or from far off, you have to admit that it's amazing!

After creating everything, God said, "It is very good." God could have said, "It is incredible!" God thought up the tiniest moth and the largest star. And God created you!

The Whatsa-ma-jiggy

- 1 Make your own modeling clay by squishing together for five minutes:
 - 1 cup of flour
 - 1/3 cup of salt
 - 1/3 cup of tap water
- 2 Create a never-seen-before animal, plant, or rock.
- 3 Name your creation, then compare your creation to God's creation by reading GENESIS 1.

I'M A DOGRAFINORD!

(Dog head, giraffe neck, rhino body, bird legs)

THE JESUS CONNECTION

WHY DID GOD GO TO ALL THE TROUBLE OF CREATION?

The main reason was that God wanted to have a relationship with you! You can have a relationship with God by putting your faith in Jesus. Check out these verses to learn more:
JOHN 3:16; ROMANS 6:23; ROMANS 10:9-10; AND JOHN 15:15-17.

The **BIGGEST** stories you absolutely have to know.

FROM CREATION TO HEAVEN— these full-color extravaganzas will wow you as you discover that you are part of God's BIG plan.



UPDATED EDITION

THE JESUS CONNECTION

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How to Use This Bible



You've got the world's coolest Bible in your hands, so where do you start? Anywhere! Any page you open to in this Bible will be a good place to start. God's Word is great, from the first page to the last. Every word is true, inspired by God, and written for you!

If you've opened this Bible, you've probably noticed all the fun activities inside. Good! Here are a few tips about them.

Before you start any activity in this Bible, always check with a parent or teacher first. Here's why:

- **Some activities require adult help or supervision. An adult may know some safety precautions you haven't thought of.**
- **Sometimes it'll be easier to have an adult get the supplies you need.**
- **Some people have food allergies that can be dangerous. So before you do a snack activity, an adult can help you carefully read food labels to check for hidden ingredients that can cause allergy-related problems.**

So, are you ready to get started? Good for you! Remember, this is *your* Bible.



Read it.
Remember it.
Write in it.
Share it.
Measure it.
Treasure it.
Live it!

**There's only one last rule—
 have FUN with it!**

How to Find Your Way around the Bible

Finding your way around the Bible is easy!

The first thing is finding the book you want. Just go to the “Contents” page at the beginning of this Bible and look for the name of the book. That’ll tell you what page to turn to. (If you already know the order of the books, look it up that way. If not, you can look up the name in the “Alphabetical Listing of Bible Books.”)

Next, you’ll want to find a certain chapter in that book. Each book of the Bible is divided into chapters and verses, and each chapter and verse has a number. The bigger numbers on the pages are the chapter numbers. You can also find the chapter numbers at the top of every page. The smaller numbers are the verse numbers.

Here’s how a Bible verse is usually written. Let’s say you want to find the first verse in the Bible. It would be written like this: Genesis 1:1. Here’s what that means:

GENESIS 1:1

Here’s the Book . . . the Chapter . . . the Verse.

See? It’s the book of Genesis, chapter 1, verse 1. It’s kind of like each verse has its own address. Let’s try another one! Let’s look up a verse about when Jesus was born.

LUKE 2:7

1

OK, first you find the **BOOK OF LUKE**.

Remember how? You got it! Look it up on the Contents page. (The more you read your Bible, the more you’ll get to know the books. Pretty soon you won’t even have to look at the list. Really!)

2

Next you need to find **CHAPTER 2**.

Just look for the bigger numbers.

3

Finally, look in **CHAPTER 2** for the little number **7**—that’s **VERSE 7**.

Now read it! See? You just found a verse that tells a very important part of the history of the world. Way to go!

Now that you have the hang of it, try looking these up on your own! After you read each verse, write it out in your own words. Here’s a list to start with: John 3:16; Deuteronomy 6:5; 1 Corinthians 13:13; Jeremiah 29:11.

Here’s another one that’s a little tricky: Matthew 28:5-7. See the short line between the verse numbers? It means to read more than one verse. So here it means: Read verses 5 through 7.

Why Are There So Many Hard Words in the Bible?

What do you mean? Don’t tell me you find Maher-shalal-hash-baz (Isaiah 8:1) hard to pronounce. Or what about Tahtim-hodshi (2 Samuel 24:6)? Piece of cake, right? (OK, just kidding.)

Sure, many words in the Bible are hard to pronounce and understand, especially names of people and places. That’s because the Bible was written a long time ago in faraway places. (Even today, people from other countries have different-sounding names for people, places, and things, don’t they? Try Heilongjiang, the name of a province in China!)

There are other words in the Bible that might not be as difficult to pronounce, but they’re still not familiar to us. We don’t use the word tabernacle too much in everyday talk, but it’s an important word in the Bible—it’s the tent where God originally lived among the Israelites (see Exodus 25:8-9).

Some other words seem strange to us because they come from other languages. The fifth book of the Bible, for instance, is called Deuteronomy. What does that mean? Actually, it’s Greek for “second” (deuter) “law” (nomos). It’s called that because in Deuteronomy Moses repeats much of the Law God gave him earlier on Mount Sinai.

Other words have big meanings that are hard to understand. For example, Jesus is called our “Mediator” in 1 Timothy 2:5. A mediator is someone who comes between two people who have a disagreement and works out a solution. God is deeply offended by sin, but Jesus took away our sin. He comes between God and us so we can have a friendly relationship again.

Even though you may stumble over the words once in a while, don’t stop reading the Bible! Every time you open it, God is speaking to you.

Why Are There So Many Different Bible Versions?

The Bible wasn’t originally written in English. In fact, different parts were written in different languages. Most of the Old Testament was written in ancient Hebrew. Small portions of the Old Testament were written in ancient Aramaic. The New Testament was originally written in ancient Greek. See a pattern?

God wants everyone in the world to read, understand, and believe the Bible. To meet this goal, people throughout the ages have translated the Bible into lots of different languages—English, Spanish, Chinese, French, Russian, and Arabic, to name a few. The list goes on and on. In some languages, the Bible has been translated more than once. That’s because languages change over time. People don’t speak and write English today the same way they did a hundred years ago, right? (Heard anyone say “Four score and seven years ago” lately?)

Bible translators have a special calling to make sure the Bible speaks clearly to as many people as possible. That’s the main reason there are so many different versions of the Bible.

A Note to Readers

The *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, was first published in 1996. It quickly became one of the most popular Bible translations in the English-speaking world. While the NLT's influence was rapidly growing, the Bible Translation Committee determined that an additional investment in scholarly review and text refinement could make it even better. So shortly after its initial publication, the committee began an eight-year process with the purpose of increasing the level of the NLT's precision without sacrificing its easy-to-understand quality. This second-generation text was completed in 2004 and is reflected in this edition of the New Living Translation. An additional update with minor changes was subsequently introduced in 2007.

The goal of any Bible translation is to convey the meaning and content of the ancient Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek texts as accurately as possible to contemporary readers. The challenge for our translators was to create a text that would communicate as clearly and powerfully to today's readers as the original texts did to readers and listeners in the ancient biblical world. The resulting translation is easy to read and understand, while also accurately communicating the meaning and content of the original biblical texts. The NLT is a general-purpose text especially good for study, devotional reading, and reading aloud in worship services.

We believe that the New Living Translation—which combines the latest biblical scholarship with a clear, dynamic writing style—will communicate God's word powerfully to all who read it. We publish it with the prayer that God will use it to speak his timeless truth to the church and the world in a fresh, new way.

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