

1 Introductions

Why should we even read the Bible in the first place? If we do, what do we expect will happen? Let's answer those questions and also go back and see how it all began.

Hebrews 4:12

2 Timothy 3:10-17

Luke 24:12-35

Genesis 2-3

Ephesians 1

Why do you think Christians read the Bible? Is it required, expected, or necessary?

What should we expect will happen when we prayerfully approach reading the Bible?

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

What does it mean for the Bible to be living and active?

If we really believe that God can work in such powerful ways through his word, does it make us want to read the Bible more? Or do we fear that we will be challenged in our "thoughts and intentions of the heart"?

Read 2 Timothy 3:10-17 for another foundational text about the way we should approach God's word.

What is God's word useful for? What does Paul say in 2 Timothy makes it so important?

What can we do to remind ourselves that Scripture is God-breathed when we read?

Jesus was not someone who burst onto the scene as a backup plan. Jesus is God the Son who has *always* been God. Since that is the case, Jesus is at work in the Old as well as the New Testament and at times what we see in the Old Testament acts like foreshadowing for what Jesus would do when he came to earth. Read [Luke 24:13-35](#) to see how the resurrected Jesus Christ teaches his disciples about himself.

Where did Jesus go to find the Scriptures that taught concerning himself?

If Jesus taught from the Old Testament and interpreted them in a way that showed that he can be found there, should we expect to see Jesus when we read the Old Testament?

Can you think of any ways that Jesus appears in the Old Testament?

As we read through this 10-week overview, we'll see the way that Jesus is the fulfillment of the hopes and promises of the Old Testament. God has had a plan that stretches back even before the creation of the world. Read [Ephesians 1](#) to find out more about God's plan.

Having read Ephesians 1, what is one piece of good news that you see in that passage?

How can we apply what we are learning to the way we live today?

