

How We Got Our Bible

Good Read Series

Discussion Questions

Have you ever thought much about how our Bible came to be? Tell us about previous views or beliefs you've held about the origin of the Bible?

Why do you think it's important for Followers of Jesus to know the origin story of the Bible? What impact might it have on the way they view the Bible?

What do you think are some of the greatest misconceptions people hold regarding what the Bible is and where it came from?

READ - Luke 24:44

- Set the scene for us, what is happening in this text? What's the context?
- What claim is Jesus making, and what does this tell us about how we should view the Old Testament?
- When the early church movement began to experience exponential growth, it wasn't a result of receiving new texts, but because they began to read the old text more completely. Do you find that surprising? How does that challenge the way we tend to think about the Old Testament?

READ - Luke 1:1-4

- According to this text how was the New Testament first communicated?
- Why shouldn't it worry us that the New Testament was originally communicated orally? what confidence do we have that the bible didn't become distorted during this period?
- What reasons does the author give for wanting to commit the stories to writing?

After the Scriptures were written why was it necessary that councils of church leaders got together to acknowledge what texts would be included in the canon of scripture?

Reflecting on the 5 criteria mentioned for the canonization of Scripture (authorship, authority, reception, consistency, and power), did any of them stand out to you?

How can understanding the history of the Bible inspire Christians to approach Scripture with reverence, excitement, and a desire to engage God's word more faithfully?

What would it look like for us as a small group to engage in the 2024 New Testament Reading Plan together? How might we encourage one another in that?