



GOD'S ROUTE 66, PART 2: LET'S GET ORIENTED TO THE MAP

Most people own a Bible, but many feel intimidated by it. It can seem confusing, overwhelming, or disconnected—as if it's a giant puzzle without the picture on the box. Because of that, many people leave Scripture unopened and spiritually drift without realizing it.

But the Bible was never meant to confuse us or collect dust. God gave us His Word to guide us, equip us, and point us to Jesus. The problem isn't that the Bible is irrelevant—it's that many of us have never learned how to navigate it. So let's step back, see the big picture, and become more confident engaging the roadmap God has given us for life!

BIG IDEA: The Bible doesn't just give information—it gives direction.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever felt completely lost trying to follow directions or use a map? What happened?
2. CJ said many people feel like the Bible is “a 5,000-piece puzzle without the box cover.” Why do you think so many people feel overwhelmed by Scripture?
3. What has helped you feel more comfortable—or uncomfortable—with reading the Bible?
4. *With your Bible or Bible App, read Psalm 119:105.*

¹⁰⁵ *Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path.*

[Psalm 119:105 \(NLT\)](#)

5. What does this verse suggest about the purpose of God's Word? What areas of life feel confusing or uncertain right now? How can Scripture bring clarity in those situations?
6. How is guidance different from simply receiving information?
7. *With your Bible or Bible App, read 2 Timothy 3:16–17.*

¹⁶ *All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,* ¹⁷ *so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

[2 Timothy 3:16-17 \(NIV\)](#)

8. According to these verses, what are the purposes of Scripture? How does God's Word help equip us for everyday life? How should believing the Bible is “God-breathed” affect the way we approach it?
9. CJ explained that the Bible is one unified story made up of 66 books across different genres and authors. Why is it important to understand the structure and context of the Bible when reading it?

CJtianity reached Britain during the Roman occupation in the 2nd century. However, There was no English language at that time. That didn't begin to develop until the 5th century as the Angles and Saxons began influencing the language. Britain had become ‘Angle land,’ which came to be known later as England. Their language, Ang-lish, was the foundation for the English language.

The only translation available of the Bible back then was a Latin translation. The Roman Church felt that only the clergy should be permitted to read scripture, for the common people might misunderstand and misapply it. The people remained dependent on the public reading of Scripture and on sermons from their priests who knew Latin for their understanding of God's Word.

It was not until 1382 that English-speaking people had a complete Bible in their own language. It was a thousand or so years when they lived in stone ignorance unless they knew Latin. Then a complete English translation of the Latin Bible was written. It was called the Wycliffe's Bible after John Wycliffe. The Wycliffe Bible, especially the second edition, had a wide influence both immediately and over the years. This is a bit remarkable under the circumstances.

First, it was written more than 60 years before the invention of printing. Thus, every copy had to be made by hand, a slow, arduous task. Yet the task was taken in hand many times, and the word of God spread. About 170 copies of the Wycliffe Bible are still in existence.

Second, the Roman Church had declared Wycliffe a heretic. Although Wycliffe died 133 years before Luther posted his 95 theses, Wycliffe was a reformer much like Luther. He opposed the authority of the pope and of canon law. He opposed the power of the church in government and the dishonest sale of official positions. He opposed the practices of corrupt priests whose blessings could be bought for a price. He upheld the rights of the common people to know and study the Bible for themselves. All this brought Wycliffe and his followers into confrontation with the church authorities.

When Wycliffe's Bible was translated, one church official said, "Wycliffe had completed his iniquity," and the translation was condemned. Wycliffe himself was denounced and his followers called lollards, which means mutterers.

In spite of the opposition, Wycliffe's movement caught on. One famous follower of Wycliffe, John Huss, was burned at the stake in 1415. In 1428, Wycliffe's remains were dug up and burned. Laws were passed outlawing the possession of English scriptures. Those caught with Bibles were burned at the stake, often with their Bibles tied around their necks. At other times, great searches were made for Bibles, which were collected and burned, but the movement was not crushed. People continued to have access to the word of God.

10. CJ described how people in history risked—and sometimes lost—their lives to translate and distribute the Bible. Why do you think we sometimes take access to God's Word for granted? How does hearing those stories affect your perspective?

11. *With your Bible or Bible App, read [Luke 24:25–27](#) and [John 5:39–40](#).*

²⁵ Then Jesus asked the two disciples, "Why can't you understand? How can you be so slow to believe all that the prophets said?" ²⁶ Didn't you know that the Messiah would have to suffer before he was given his glory?" ²⁷ Jesus then explained everything written about himself in the Scriptures, beginning with the Law of Moses and the Books of the Prophets. [Luke 24:25–27\(CEV\)](#)

³⁹ "You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me!" ⁴⁰ Yet you refuse to come to me to receive this life. [John 5:39–40 \(NLT\)](#)

12. What stands out to you about Jesus being the central theme of Scripture? How does seeing the Bible as one story about Jesus change the way you read it?
13. Why is it possible to study the Bible and still miss Jesus? What's the difference between knowing about Scripture and knowing Jesus?
14. CJ challenged everyone to 1) read the Bible regularly, 2) become familiar with it, and 3) let it shape their lives. Which of those is hardest for you right now? Why?
15. What is one practical change you can make this week to become more engaged with God's Word? How can this group help encourage you in that process?

MOVING FORWARD

The Bible was never meant to stay closed on a shelf—it was meant to shape your direction, your thinking, and your relationship with Jesus. This week, don't just admire Scripture from a distance. Open it. Read it. Ask the Holy Spirit to illuminate it. And remember: the goal isn't just to know the map—the goal is to follow where it leads.

WEEKLY READING

This week, spend some time reading and reflecting on Luke 24:13–45, John 5:39–40, 2 Timothy 3:16–17, and Hebrews 4:12.