

**The Bible:
What it is?
How do I read it?
Why is it awesome ?**

Study Guide: Part 4

SUMMARY

So far, in our quest to answer the question, “What is the Bible?” we’ve covered *inspiration* and *transmission*. In part 4, we cover the *translation* of the Bible. Our burden here is to think through how God’s words have come to us in 2018 as we sit reading our modern English versions. One of those steps, is the translation of the scriptures into our language. So in the message, we talk through several key texts that have to do with language. We trace some of the history of the English translation. And finally, we end with where all of this heading. Listen to the message online if you missed it and then work through the questions below.

GROUP QUESTIONS (*For use with your family, roommates, Community or Bible Group, or individually*)

Share something from the message or passages that surprised, encouraged, or troubled you.

Read Genesis 1.1-3. Discuss the significance of God speaking first. Why didn’t he just act or accomplish creation?

If you can, watch the video again that was shown on Sunday. The Bible Project: How to read the Bible, *The Story of the Bible*: <https://thebibleproject.com/all-videos/?category=how-to-read-the-bible&q=>

Do you have any insights or thoughts after watching this?

Read Genesis 11.1-9, Acts 2.1-13, and Revelation 7.9-10.

What are the connections here? What is happening with *language* in these passages? (You could also read Genesis 9.18-19, 11.4, and 12.1-2 and discuss “name/*shem*”)

Did anything stand out to you or surprise you from the history of the English Bible? Note the details from the pics of the whiteboard from Sunday.

Here is the chart on Bible translations. Discuss in your group what translation you use and why. Perhaps consider using a different one if you’ve used the same one for years. Also, discuss Bible plans you may be using to read through scripture.

Formal Equivalent: To be as close to the original languages word for word.	Dynamic Equivalent: To produce a thought for thought translation.	Paraphrase: Gives explanatory phrases not included in the original to give the sense.
New American Standard Bible (NASB) English Standard Version (ESV) ->	New International Version (NIV) New Living Translation (NLT) Common English Version (CEV) Christian Standard Bible (CSB)	The Message, Eugene Peterson The Living Bible JB Phillips New Testament

RESOURCES

The Journey from Text to Translations, Paul D. Wegner
The Bible Project Podcast and Videos: *How to Read The Bible*