

Why do we need to read the Bible?

1. The Bible is God's long, long love letter to us.

- . Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths. (Psalm 25:4 ESV)
- . All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness. (2 Timothy 3:16 ESV)

2. Through the Bible, God wants to tell us many things about Himself.

- . But You, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. (Psalm 86:15 ESV)
- . The LORD is slow to anger and great in power, and the LORD will by no means clear the guilty. His way is in whirlwind and storm, and the clouds are the dust of His feet. (Nahum 1:3 ESV)
- . In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (John 1:1 ESV)

3. He wants to tell us about His amazing love to us;

- . And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14 ESV)
- . Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. (John 13:1 ESV)
- . As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in His love. (John 15:9-10 ESV)

4. And about all the blessings and promises He wants to give to us.

- . "Blessed be the LORD who has given rest to His people Israel, according to all that He promised. Not one word has failed of all His good promise, which he spoke by Moses His servant..." (1 King 8:56 ESV)
- . By which He has granted to us His precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. (2 Peter 1:4 ESV)
- . And this is the promise that He made to us—eternal life. (1 John 2:25 ESV)
- . Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. (Ephesians 1:3 ESV)

5. He also wants to tell us about the wonderful plan He has for you and me.

- . The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of His heart to all generations. (Psalm 33:11 ESV)
- . Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. (Psalm 119:105 ESV)
- . And to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all thing. (Ephesians 3:9 ESV)
- . Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this. (Revelation 1:19 ESV)

6. He wants to tell us that heaven is our home, and what a beautiful home it is!

And yes! He also tells us that we'll live happily together with God in this beautiful home.

- . But according to His promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. (2 Peter 3:13 ESV)
- . And He who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also He said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." (Revelation 21:5 ESV)

- . And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God... (Revelation 21:10 - 22:6 ESV)

7. Through the Bible, God tells us how we can overcome Satan and our enemies.

Not only that, we'll also get to sit on the throne with Him as victorious kings!

Wow, did you ever imagine that you would be a king?

- . Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. (Luke 10:19 ESV)
- . And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. (Acts 20:32 ESV)
- . Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. (James 4:7 ESV)
- . Casting all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you. Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. (1 Peter 5:7-8 ESV)
- . The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on His throne. (Revelation 3:21 ESV)
- . And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. (Revelation 12:11 ESV)

8. As we read the Bible, we'll get to know and understand more and more about God.

When we know more about Him, we'll become happier and happier!

- . For I find my delight in your commandments, which I love. (Psalm 119:47 ESV)

- . Your words were found, and I ate them, and Your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by Your name, O LORD, God of hosts. (Jeremiah 15:16 ESV)
- . For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. (Romans 15:4 ESV)

9. When we are reading the Bible, we do more than just read the words.

We can give thanks to Him.

And talk to Him about all the things we are reading.

- . Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to His teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her." (Luke 10:38-42 ESV)
- . They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked to us on the road, while He opened to us the Scriptures?" (Luke 24:32 ESV)
- . Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. (Colossians 3:16 ESV)

10. As we read more, our faith will grow, our joy will increase,

And we'll gain great victory too!

- . But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on His law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers. (Psalm 1:2-3 ESV)
- . The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether. (Psalm 19:7-9 ESV)
- . Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me. (Psalm 119:98 ESV)
- . "... and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (John 8:32 ESV)
- . He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what He had promised. (Romans 4:19-21 ESV)