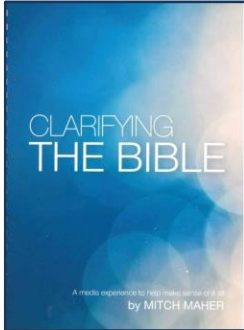# READING THE BIBLE FOR LIFE: An Introduction

THE BIG PICTURE

For many of us, the Bible's size and complexity are overwhelming. A quick overview can help you see how the pieces really do fit together in the larger picture of God's redemption for His people.

Clarifying the Bible (K-DVD BIBLE) Explains how the Bible is put together, easy to understand.

The Story for Children (J 220.5 STORY) A quick run through the Bible in chronological order. This is written for children, but makes an easy adult read.

Understanding the Bible (220 STOTT) has two wonderful chapters on "The Story of the Bible" that show the Bible as one continuous story. In fact, the whole book is well worth reading.

READY TO READ

Motivation and consistency are common hurdles for many people. There is no perfect time or frequency, so think through your own schedule. Doing it right after something (breakfast or dinner, or when the kids go to bed) or before something (TV or Facebook) will help. Reading with a friend can provide some accountability, as you check in weekly and compare notes.

Select a Bible translation you're comfortable with. A chronological Bible is helpful, especially for going through the Old Testament. The library has The Narrated Bible (220.51 NARRATED), which is now sold as the NIV Daily Bible (by F LaGard Smith). This has short helpful summaries to help keep track of what's going on.
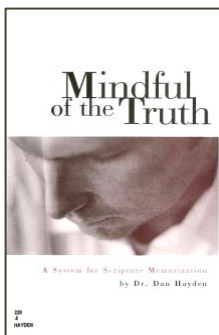
HELPFUL GUIDES

As you begin your adventure reading God's word, here are two books with valuable background and insight.

The Essential Bible Companion (220.7 WALTON) This provides visually inviting introductions with colorful 2-page spread for each book of the Bible.
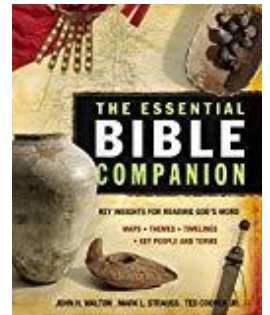
Knowing Scripture (220.6 SPROUL) Practical suggestions to help you read and interpret the Bible.

HIDE IT IN YOUR HEART

Nothing brings God's Word into your heart and life like memorizing it. As you read you will come across familiar verses to memorize. Yes, you can do this!

Mindful of the Truth: A System for Scripture Memorization
(220.6 HAYDEN) *This booklet is only 15 pages long, but a great help for getting started.*