

THE STORY OF THE BIBLE

A seven-week devotional journey through the grand narrative of Scripture — exploring God's story of creation, redemption, and restoration.

Written and Compiled by:



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The Story of the Bible: From Created to New Creation

Introduction

The Bible isn't just a collection of ancient stories—it's one grand narrative of God's love, redemption, and purpose for humanity. From the very beginning to the end of time, Scripture reveals a God who creates, pursues, rescues, and restores. This 7-part study will guide you through the overarching story of Scripture while helping you discover your unique place in God's plan.

How to Use This Study

Each section of this devotional study explores a key part of the Bible's story, from Genesis to Revelation. There are 7 total parts in this "Story of the Bible," each coinciding with a KYB video, and each part contains five devotional entries with Scripture, reflection questions, additional scriptures for study, and journaling space. It is designed to be a 7-week study, with a video on Sunday, followed by devotional thoughts each weekday, and concluding with a prayer prompt to wrap up the week. You can complete one part per week, or move at your own pace. Take time to read, pray, and reflect deeply. If you're studying with a group, allow space for discussion and shared insight.

Suggested Rhythm

- Tune in for the weekly video release each Sunday.
- Read and complete one journal entry each weekday.
- Use the reflection questions and journal space to engage with Scripture personally.
- Watch for a second video on Thursdays, offering additional background and insight into the week's study topic(s).
- Spend the weekend reviewing your notes and praying about what you've learned before moving to the next part.
- Don't rush—allow God's Word to speak to your heart at His pace.

OPENING PRAYER

FATHER, THANK YOU FOR GIVING US YOUR WORD WHICH CAPTURES THE STORY OF YOUR HEART AND YOUR ETERNAL PLAN FOR US. AS I BEGIN THIS JOURNEY THROUGH SCRIPTURE, OPEN MY EYES TO SEE YOUR TRUTH, MY EARS TO HEAR YOUR VOICE, AND MY HEART TO RESPOND TO YOUR LOVE. HELP ME TO UNDERSTAND HOW EACH PART OF THIS STORY CONTINUALLY POINTS TO JESUS AND THE HOPE I HAVE IN HIM.

AMEN.

PART 1

THE BEGINNING

WHY AM I HERE?

Have you ever paused long enough to ask, “Why am I here?” Not just what you’re supposed to do, or where you’re headed next—but why you exist at all. It is one of the most foundational questions that a human being can ask.

Unsurprisingly, the Bible has an answer to this question. It tells us not only why human beings exist, but why you, specifically, exist. The Bible opens in the book of Genesis with a breathtaking answer: you are here because a *good* God loves you and made you *on purpose*, for relationship with Himself.

To understand this answer more fully, we must first understand that the Bible, although comprised of 66 separate books, is telling one overarching story. In this series – “The Story of the Bible” – we’ll uncover not only the common theme running throughout the pages of God’s word, but also your part in it. We begin with answering this fundamental question to understand first why it is that God made us. Because that answer is pivotal to the rest of the story.

To begin this week’s study of the Story of the Bible, watch the first video of the series – “**The Beginning: Why Am I Here?**” – from the Story of the Bible playlist on the KYB – Know Your Bible YouTube Channel.

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THE BEGINNING

JOURNAL ENTRY 1: A GOOD GOD

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.
Genesis 1:1

The first thing we learn about God isn't His rules, His power, or His expectations. It's His creativity and His goodness. Every brushstroke of creation—the stars scattered across the sky, the rhythm of ocean waves, the vibrant life teeming on earth—speaks of a God who delights in beauty and order.

God didn't create out of boredom, necessity, or loneliness; He created out of love. Everything He made was good because *He is good*. His goodness still sustains the world; the glory of His magnificent creation is still evident today.

Additional Study:

- 1 John 4:7-12
- Psalm 100:5

Reflect:

- What are some moments in your life (or in nature) that have demonstrated the goodness of God & His creation?
- What do these glimpses tell you about the heart of your Creator?

Journal Space:

THE BEGINNING

JOURNAL ENTRY 2: A PERFECT CREATION

And God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:10, 12, 18, 21, 25

Imagine the Garden of Eden: a place without decay, fear, or pain. Creation working in perfect harmony—every need met, every relationship whole. That's the world God intended for His people.

Even though our world is far from perfect now, that original goodness still echoes around us. It's why we long for peace, beauty, and justice—because deep down, we were made for the relationship that existed in Eden.

Additional Study:

- Genesis 1:1-31
- Genesis 2:1-2

Reflect:

- Do you wish we were still in Eden today; why or why not?
- How might that desire point to God's original design?

Journal Space:

THE BEGINNING

JOURNAL ENTRY 3: IN HIS IMAGE

*So God created mankind in His own image, in the image of
God He created them; male and female He created them...
God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.
Genesis 1:27; 31*

You are not an accident. You were made in the image of God. That means you carry His fingerprints—His creativity, His capacity to love, to reason, to create, and to choose.

Your worth doesn't come from what you do, or accomplish, but from the One who made you. Every person you meet reflects something of God's nature, and so do you.

Additional Study:

- Genesis 1:26
- Psalm 8:4-6

Reflect:

- What would change about your self-image if you truly believed you were made in God's likeness?
- How might that affect the way you view others?

Journal Space:

THE BEGINNING

JOURNAL ENTRY 4: DESIGNED FOR RELATIONSHIP

The LORD God walked in the garden in the cool of the day...
Genesis 3:8a

Before sin entered the world, Adam and Eve walked and talked with God. That picture—closeness, simplicity, and connection—is what we were made for.

God's greatest desire has never changed. From the beginning, He wanted to dwell with His people; to be known, and to be loved. Your life isn't random or an accident—it's a divine invitation into relationship with your Creator.

Additional Study:

- Proverbs 8:17
- James 4:7-10

Reflect:

- When you think about your relationship with God, what feels close? What feels distant?
- What would it look like for you to “walk with God” in your everyday life?

Journal Space:

THE BEGINNING

JOURNAL ENTRY 5: MADE FOR A PURPOSE

The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

Genesis 2:15

Before there was brokenness, there was purpose. God didn't create Adam and Eve to simply exist in paradise; He invited them to *partner with Him* in caring for creation.

Work, stewardship, and creativity were part of humanity's calling from the start. That means your life is meant to reflect the goodness and order of God in the world around you.

Additional Study:

- Isaiah 43:7
- Ephesians 2:10

Reflect:

- What areas of your life do you sense God inviting you to “tend” or care for?
- How might your daily work—no matter how ordinary—reflect God's goodness to others?

Journal Space:

PRAYER PROMPT

Father, thank You for creating me with intention, purpose, and love. You did not make me by accident, and You did not set me at a distance. You formed me in Your image and invited me into close relationship with You, not reluctantly, but with delight. Thank You that You desire to know me deeply and to walk with me daily. Help me slow down enough to notice Your goodness in the world around me and to recognize Your hand in my life.

Remind me that I carry Your image everywhere I go. Shape my thoughts, words, and actions so that others may see something of You in me. Teach me to walk closely with You, listening for Your voice and following Your lead. Let my life reflect the purpose You gave from the very beginning: to know You, to love You, and to make Your love known.

Amen.

PART 2: THE FALL

WHY DOES THE WORLD FEEL SO BROKEN?

Everywhere we look, the world shows signs of brokenness — pain, conflict, loss, and longing. Have you ever thought to yourself, “What is wrong with this world?” Or wondered why things are this way...why things feel so broken? Surely it's not meant to be this way?

In the beginning, God created a perfect world. When He finished making this perfect world, He made humans, in His own image, to rule over it. And, He gave us freedom within that world. In fact, God gave those first humans *only one* rule. The Bible explains that the world's brokenness began when humanity failed to follow that one simple command and turned away from God. That one act of rebellion, also known as sin, fractured everything. And from there, the pattern of rebelling against God and seeking our own way and pleasure has continued throughout history. We see it all through the rest of the Bible.

But even in humanity's darkest moment, God didn't walk away. And He doesn't walk away now. Even in our failures, God's mercy shines through.

To begin this week's study (Week 2) of the Story of the Bible, watch the second video of the series – **“The Fall: Why Does the World Feel So Broken?”** – from the Story of the Bible playlist on the KYB – Know Your Bible YouTube Channel.

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THE FALL

JOURNAL ENTRY 1: ADAM & EVE DISOBEYED

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

Genesis 3:6

In the beginning, Adam and Eve lived in perfect harmony with God, but one moment of disobedience changed *everything*. They chose to believe a lie—that life apart from God could be better than life with Him. That single act of rebellion, of exercising their God-given free will, introduced sin into the world and altered the course of human history.

Additional Study:

- Genesis 2:16-17
- 1 Corinthians 15:21-22

Reflect:

- What do you think tempted Adam and Eve the most—the fruit itself, or the promise of being like God?
- Do you think we still fall for similar lies today?

Journal Space:

THE FALL

JOURNAL ENTRY 2: SIN ENTERED THE WORLD

*Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man,
and death through sin, and in this way death came to all
people, because all sinned.*

Romans 5:12

Sin is more than a momentary mistake—it's a condition that separates us from God and distorts everything good. When sin entered the world, death and suffering followed. The harmony of creation was disrupted, and humanity's perfect relationship with God was broken.

Additional Study:

- Romans 5:17-18
- Ecclesiastes 7:29

Reflect:

- Where do you see the effects of sin in the world around you, or in your own life?
- How has sin distorted the way people relate to God, each other, and creation?

Journal Space:

THE FALL

JOURNAL ENTRY 3: THE RELATIONSHIP FRACTURED

But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"
Genesis 3:9

Even after Adam and Eve disobeyed, God came looking for them. He called out, not in ignorance, but in compassion. Sin created a barrier, it fractured the relationship, but it didn't destroy it or change God's desire for relationship. From that moment on, God began the work of pursuing and restoring His people.

Additional Study:

- Genesis 3:23
- Romans 5:10-11

Reflect:

- What does it mean to you that God still called out to Adam and Eve after they sinned?
- When have you experienced God pursuing you, even when you tried to hide?

Journal Space:

THE FALL

JOURNAL ENTRY 4: “THE CURSE” ON CREATION

*Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil
you will eat food from it all the days of your life.*

Genesis 3:17

Sin didn’t just affect people—it affected *all* of creation. The ground itself became cursed, and pain, struggle, and decay entered the world. Everything that was once effortless now came with toil. This is why life often feels heavy and full of frustration—we are living with the consequences of Adam & Eve’s decision, which resulted in a fallen world.

Additional Study:

- Genesis 3:14-19
- Romans 8:19-25

Reflect:

- What parts of life remind you most that creation is under the weight of the curse?
- What effect does this have on your hope for the future?

Journal Space:

THE FALL

JOURNAL ENTRY 5: GOD PROMISED REDEMPTION

*And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and
between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head,
and you will strike his heel.*

Genesis 3:15

Even as God pronounced judgment, He gave a promise. A descendant of Eve would one day crush the serpent's head—a foreshadowing of Jesus Christ, the Savior, who would defeat both sin and death. From the very beginning, God's plan for redemption was already promised and in motion.

Additional Study:

- Galatians 4:4-5
- Hebrews 2:14-15

Reflect:

- Where have you seen God bring hope or healing into something broken in your life?
- How does it change your view of God to know He promised restoration, even in the midst of judgment?

Journal Space:

PRAYER PROMPT

Lord, I see the brokenness in the world around me and in my own heart, and I know this is not how You intended things to be. Sin fractured what was meant to be whole, and yet You did not walk away. Thank You for Your unrelenting love—for calling out to us even in our wandering, for pursuing relationship when we turned aside, and for sending Jesus to restore what was lost. Your faithfulness has never wavered, even when ours has.

Help me to trust Your promise of redemption, not just in a distant, future hope, but in the daily moments of my life. Teach me to look for the signs of Your restoration at work—healing what has been wounded, renewing what has grown weary, and transforming what feels too broken to repair. Let my heart rest in the truth that You are still making all things new, including me.

Amen.

PART 3

THE PURSUIT

DOES GOD EVEN CARE ANYMORE?

Sometimes, when life is hard or the world feels broken, it's natural to wonder: Does God even care anymore? From our knowledge of human nature we might expect God to just give up on us at this point. We rejected Him, why would He even care anymore. But the story of Scripture shows us clearly that He does care. Even after the Fall, He still pursued relationship with mankind.

As we study "The Pursuit," two clear lessons from Old Testament history become clear:

1. Mankind can't seem to stay faithful to God. We continually fail.
2. God is still faithful. He never stops pursuing a loving relationship with His creation.

God never abandoned His people; He pursued them relentlessly, making promises and keeping covenants that point to His unwavering love. And He continues to love us and continually invite us back into relationship with Him still today.

To begin this week's study (Week 3) of the Story of the Bible, watch the third video of the series – **"The Pursuit: Does God Even Care Anymore?"** – from the Story of the Bible playlist on the KYB – Know Your Bible YouTube Channel.

www.youtube.com/@KYB-Know-Your-Bible

THE PURSUIT

JOURNAL ENTRY 1: GOD'S PROMISED REDEMPTION

*The LORD appeared to Abram and said, 'To your offspring
I will give this land.'*
Genesis 12:7

Throughout the pages of the Bible, God has continually pursued His people and redemption of the relationship with His creation. God's pursuit of His people included promises and covenants—formal agreements that demonstrated His faithfulness. Even when humanity stumbled, God established plans to redeem His people and keep His word.

Additional Study:

- Genesis 9:8-17
- Hebrews 8:6

Reflect:

- How have you experienced God's faithfulness and promises in your life?
- How do His covenants show that He truly cares for His people across generations?

Journal Space:

THE PURSUIT

JOURNAL ENTRY 2: COVENANTS WITH ABRAHAM & DAVID

I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

2 Samuel 7:16

Through Abraham, God promised blessings to a great nation (Genesis 12:1-3). Through David, He promised an eternal kingdom (2 Samuel 7). These covenants were not just for the individuals of that time and place, but for all humanity, showing that God's plan extended beyond a single lifetime or people.

Additional Study:

- Hebrews 6:13-18
- Acts 2:29-32

Reflect:

- How do the covenants with Abraham and David demonstrate God's faithfulness?
- What hope do these promises give you today?

Journal Space:

THE PURSUIT

JOURNAL ENTRY 3: GOD'S PATIENCE AND PERSISTENCE

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness.

2 Peter 3:9

God's pursuit wasn't rushed or superficial. He patiently worked through generations, waiting for the right moments to act. His persistence demonstrates His love and commitment, even when people faltered or turned away.

Additional Study:

- Exodus 34:6-7
- Romans 2:4

Reflect:

- Think of an example of when you've experienced God's patience with you in your life?
- How does God's persistence affect your trust in Him?

Journal Space:

THE PURSUIT

JOURNAL ENTRY 4: CONTINUED DESIRE FOR RELATIONSHIP

I will be your God and you will be my people.
Jeremiah 31:33

Despite humanity's failures and purposeful departure from His plan, God continually sought renewed relationship. Through prophets, kings, and covenants, He showed that His ultimate desire was not just obedience, but connection and intimacy with His people.

Additional Study:

- Ephesians 1:7-10
- 1 Peter 2:9-10

Reflect:

- How does it encourage you to know God desires relationship more than perfection?
- In what ways can you draw closer to God today?

Journal Space:

THE PURSUIT

JOURNAL ENTRY 5: GOD'S PLAN POINTED TO A SAVIOR

*All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes
in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.*

Acts 10:43

Throughout centuries of covenants, promises, and prophets, God's plan was always moving in one direction...toward Jesus. Every story, every sacrifice, every promise pointed to the coming Savior who would restore what had been lost. The Old Testament is a love story, building to the moment God Himself would step into our world to redeem His people.

Additional Study:

- Isaiah 53:1-12
- Ephesians 2:4-9

Reflect:

- How does it change the way you read the Old Testament to know that it all points to Jesus?
- What does this teach you about God's consistency and enduring faithfulness?

Journal Space:

PRAYER PROMPT

Lord, thank You for never giving up on me. Your goodness has followed me all the days of my life, even in the moments when I've wandered, doubted, or chosen my own way. You have been patient with me, gentle with my heart, and faithful in every season. I see in Scripture how You pursued Your people again and again, and I realize You are doing the same in my story today.

Help me trust Your plan, especially when I cannot see all that You are doing. Help me notice the ways You are at work in my life right now. Open my eyes to Your presence in the simple moments, Your provision in the ordinary, and Your mercy in the places I feel weak. Let my heart rest in the truth that You are good, that You are pursuing me still, and that Your faithfulness will never fail me.

Amen.

PART 4

THE RESCUE

CAN GOD RESCUE *ME*?

The heart of the Bible's story is the rescue mission of God Himself. Have you ever wondered if God can save you? Perhaps you think you're too far gone. Or that God is angry at you or has given up on you. Or that what you've done is just too much for God to forgive. If you've ever had these thoughts or doubts, the Bible has some good news for *you*.

The Bible is the continual story about a God who refuses to give up on His creation. So far, we've seen this exemplified in the story of the beginnings in Genesis, our fall from God in the garden, and His pursuit of us through the law, the sacrifices, and the covenants.

With each step of the story, we see God getting closer to man. In this next part of this story, God isn't just close to us, He is with us. And He is on a mission: To rescue us.

So, if you've ever wondered whether God can save *you* personally, the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus provides the answer. Through Him, God bridges the gap between our brokenness and His perfect love.

To begin this week's study (Week 4) of the Story of the Bible, watch the fourth video of the series – **“The Rescue: Can God Rescue Me?”** – from the Story of the Bible playlist on the KYB – Know Your Bible YouTube Channel.

www.youtube.com/@KYB-Know-Your-Bible

THE RESCUE

JOURNAL ENTRY 1: GOD WITH US

*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.
We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son,
who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

John 1:14

God didn't just speak from a distance — He came near. In Jesus, the divine Word took on human flesh and lived among us. His presence not only demonstrated that God cares deeply, but is willing to meet us where we are.

Additional Study:

- Matthew 1:23
- Colossians 1:15-20

Reflect:

- What does it mean to you that God Himself came to Earth, to live among people?
- How does this change the way you think about God's nearness in your life today?

Journal Space:

THE RESCUE

JOURNAL ENTRY 2: JESUS' LIFE (AND MISSION) ON EARTH

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

Luke 19:10

Jesus' life was a model of love, service, and obedience. He healed the sick, comforted the hurting, and taught about God's kingdom. His mission was clear: to seek and save those who were lost, offering hope and restoration.

Additional Study:

- Mark 10:45
- John 3:17

Reflect:

- Which aspects of Jesus' life and mission resonate most with you?
- How can you reflect His love and purpose in your daily life?

Journal Space:

THE RESCUE

JOURNAL ENTRY 3: THE PERFECT SACRIFICIAL LAMB

*But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed
for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace
was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.*

Isaiah 53:5

Jesus' death fulfilled the promises and covenants God had made through Abraham, David, and the prophets. He offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice, taking on the penalty for sin so that we could be reconciled to God.

Additional Study:

- Romans 5:8-9
- 1 Peter 1:18-20

Reflect:

- How does it make you feel knowing that Jesus died to take on the penalty for your sin?
- What does it mean to be reconciled to God through Him?

Journal Space:

THE RESCUE

JOURNAL ENTRY 4: JESUS CRUCIFIED

*When they came to the place called the Skull,
they crucified him there.*

Luke 23:33

Jesus willingly endured the cross, taking on the punishment we deserved. His crucifixion shows the depth of God's love for us, and the high cost of our rescue.

Additional Study:

- 1 Peter 2:24
- Luke 23

Reflect:

- What stands out to you about Jesus' willingness to suffer for others?
- How does His sacrifice impact the way you view your own life and sins?

Journal Space:

THE RESCUE

JOURNAL ENTRY 5: DEATH DEFEATED

He is not here; he has risen!

Luke 24:6

The resurrection is the ultimate proof of God's power over sin and death. Jesus rose to bring new life, hope, and victory to all who believe. Through Him, we are invited into a restored relationship with God that death cannot destroy.

Additional Study:

- Luke 24
- 1 Corinthians 15:56-57

Reflect:

- How does the fact that the tomb was found empty give you hope in your daily life?
- What does it mean to live in the victory of Christ's resurrection?

Journal Space:

PRAYER PROMPT

Lord Jesus, thank You for coming to live among us, for stepping into our humanity, and showing us what love truly looks like. Thank You for the way You taught, healed, welcomed, and served. And thank You for going all the way to the cross—laying down Your life out of pure love—and for rising again on the third day to restore us to the Father. Your resurrection is not just a past event; it is the foundation of my hope today.

Help me to remember Your sacrifice not only in moments of worship, but in the rhythms of my daily life. Teach me to walk in the victory You have already won, to let Your resurrection reshape how I see myself, my circumstances, and my future. Let the hope of Your risen life take root in me in real and tangible ways—renewing my mind, strengthening my heart, and guiding my steps. May I live each day with the quiet confidence that You are alive, You are with me, and You are still redeeming all things.

Amen.

PART 5

THE VICTORY

HOW SHOULD I RESPOND?

So, up to this point, we've seen and now understand that our sin separates us from God. We know that God is seeking us, and that through His Son, He has offered us rescue. So how do we respond to that offer?

God's plan didn't end at the cross with the death of His only Son. Three days later, something incredible happened. The tomb was found *empty*. Jesus' resurrection was not just a miraculous moment in history—it was the turning point of all creation and the invitation to new life.

His resurrection and victory over death isn't just about Jesus, it's about us. Because of His work on the cross, we can live, too. His resurrection opens the door for us to leave behind the brokenness and failure that has weighed humanity down since the Fall and claim the same victory that Jesus has over death.

We are called to live a new life in this victory – the victory over sin and death – every day. The question is: How do we respond to what Jesus has done and claim this victory for ourselves?

To begin this week's study (Week 5) of the Story of the Bible, watch the fifth video of the series – **“The Victory: How Should I Respond?”** – from the Story of the Bible playlist on the KYB – Know Your Bible YouTube Channel.

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THE VICTORY

JOURNAL ENTRY 1: BURIED AND RAISED WITH CHRIST

We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

Romans 6:4

The passage referenced above from Romans 6 reminds us that following Jesus means dying to our old life and being raised into something brand new. Baptism beautifully mirrors the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. Through faith and obedience, we continue to participate in His death and resurrection. We don't just believe in Christ's victory — we *live* it, walking daily in freedom from sin.

Additional Study:

- 2 Corinthians 5:17-21
- Galatians 2:20

Reflect:

- What does it mean for you personally to be 'raised to a new life' in Christ?
- Are there areas of your life where you need to live more fully in that freedom?

Journal Space:

THE VICTORY

JOURNAL ENTRY 2: THE EMPTY TOMB

He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.

Matthew 28:6

The empty tomb is what separates Christianity from every other religion. Our Savior is alive! Because Jesus lives, our faith is not in a memory, but in a living Lord who continues to work in us and through us.

Additional Study:

- Mark 16:1-7
- John 20:1-18

Reflect:

- Why is the empty tomb such a vital part of the Christian faith?
- How does knowing Jesus is alive change the way you face challenges and fears?

Journal Space:

THE VICTORY

JOURNAL ENTRY 3: WHAT SHALL WE DO?

Peter replied, 'Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'
Acts 2:38

When people first heard about Jesus' death and resurrection, they were 'cut to the heart' and asked what they should do. Peter's answer still holds true today—turn from sin, be baptized into Christ, and receive the Holy Spirit. The gospel calls not just for belief, but for response.

Additional Study:

- Acts 8:26-39
- Acts 16:22-34

Reflect:

- What stands out to you about the people's response in Acts 2?
- How have you responded—or how might God be calling you to respond—to His message of salvation?

Journal Space:

THE VICTORY

JOURNAL ENTRY 4: THE NEED FOR FAITH

*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and
this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.*

Ephesians 2:8

Faith is our response to grace. We cannot earn salvation; we simply trust in the One who gives it freely. Faith means surrender—believing that Jesus' victory is enough and choosing to follow Him each day.

Additional Study:

- Hebrews 11:6
- Galatians 3:26-27

Reflect:

- What would it look like for you to have genuine faith in your life right now?
- In what areas might God be asking you to trust Him more deeply?

Journal Space:

THE VICTORY

JOURNAL ENTRY 5: WE ARE NOT ALONE

And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

Matthew 28:20

Jesus spoke these words after His resurrection, promising His continued presence through the Holy Spirit and through His church. We are never meant to walk this life of faith alone—God surrounds us with His Spirit and with a community of believers, the Church, to strengthen and guide us in our faith walk.

Additional Study:

- John 14:16-27
- Romans 8:26-27

Reflect:

- Who has God placed in your life to walk beside you in faith?
- How can you be a source of encouragement to others on their journey?

Journal Space:

PRAYER PROMPT

Lord, thank You for the victory that is mine through Your Son, Jesus Christ. Because of His death and resurrection, I am free, forgiven, and no longer bound by my old life. Remind me that the same power that raised Jesus from the grave is at work in me today. Help me to live with confidence in what You've already accomplished, rather than in fear or striving. Strengthen my faith and shape my heart to respond to You with trust, obedience, and hope.

Teach me to walk each day knowing I am never alone. You go before me, You stand beside me, and You strengthen me. Let my life reflect Your grace, not just in my words, but in the way I love, serve, and endure. Make my life a living testimony of the victory of Christ, so that others may see You through me.

Amen.

PART 6

THE INVITATION

HOW DO I LIVE IN THIS BROKEN WORLD?

Jesus' victory over sin and death invites us into a restored relationship with God and a new way of living. Through faith and baptism, we are united with Christ, raised to walk in newness of life, and welcomed into the family of God. Though the world remains broken, those who belong to Christ are called to live differently—to embody His love, reflect His character, and carry His light into every place we go.

We are the Body of Christ, joined together to encourage, strengthen, and serve one another. We are called to be salt and light to others around us; to bring hope into a fallen and dark world; to live with a faith that is evident to all and expresses itself through obedience. The invitation of the gospel is not only to believe, but to live as one who has been transformed by grace and marked by the presence of Jesus in every part of life.

To begin this week's study (Week 6) of the Story of the Bible, watch the sixth video of the series – **“The Invitation: How Do I Live in This Broken World?”** – from the Story of the Bible playlist on the KYB – Know Your Bible YouTube Channel.

www.youtube.com/@KYB-Know-Your-Bible

THE INVITATION

JOURNAL ENTRY 1: WALK IN NEWNESS OF LIFE

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

2 Corinthians 5:17

Life in Christ is not about perfection, but transformation. To walk in newness of life means to daily surrender the old ways of sin and selfishness and embrace the Spirit-led life of faith, hope, and love. We live as those who have been made new, reflecting the grace that has changed us.

Additional Study:

- Romans 6:4
- Ephesians 4:22-24

Reflect:

- What are some ways your life looks different since following Jesus?
- Are there areas of your life where you need to begin “walking in newness?”

Journal Space:

THE INVITATION

JOURNAL ENTRY 2: THE BODY OF CHRIST

*Now you are the body of Christ,
and each one of you is a part of it.*

1 Corinthians 12:27

God never intended for believers to walk alone. We belong to one another as members of Christ's body. Each person has gifts, strengths, and a role to play in God's kingdom. Together, we reflect Jesus and His love to the world more completely than we ever could alone.

Additional Study:

- Romans 12:4-8
- Colossians 1:18

Reflect:

- How has being part of a Christian community strengthened your faith?
- What part do you think God is calling you to play within the body of Christ?

Journal Space:

THE INVITATION

JOURNAL ENTRY 3: SALT AND LIGHT

You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world.

Matthew 5:13–14

Jesus calls His followers to be salt and light—preserving what is good, bringing flavor to life, and shining brightly in the darkness. We make a difference not through perfection, but through love, integrity, and hope that unmistakable and point others to Christ.

Additional Study:

- Romans 12:1-2
- 1 Peter 4:3-6

Reflect:

- What does being 'salt and light' look like in your everyday life?
- Who in your world might need to experience the light of Christ through you?

Journal Space:

THE INVITATION

JOURNAL ENTRY 4: FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Galatians 5:22–23

When we walk with the Spirit, He transforms our character. The fruit of the Spirit is evidence that God is at work within us—producing love, joy, and peace even in the midst of a broken world. As we grow in Christ, His life becomes increasingly visible through ours.

Additional Study:

- John 15:2-5
- Galatians 6:8-10

Reflect:

- Which fruit of the Spirit do you most desire to grow in right now?
- In what ways can you make space in your daily life for the Spirit to shape your heart?

Journal Space:

THE INVITATION

JOURNAL ENTRY 5: EVERLASTING HOPE

But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 3:20

Even as we live in a fallen world, we hold onto the promise that this is not the end. Our hope is eternal—anchored in the risen Christ. Living in grace means trusting that one day, God will make all things new. Until then, we live with joy, peace, and purpose, sharing His hope with others.

Additional Study:

- Romans 8:24-25
- Hebrews 6:18-19

Reflect:

- In what ways does your hope in eternity change the way you live today?
- What are some ways you can share your hope with others who are hurting?

Journal Space:

PRAYER PROMPT

Father, thank You for inviting me into a new life through Jesus Christ. In Him, I have been made new, washed clean, and welcomed into Your family. Teach me to walk with You daily—to slow my pace, to listen for Your voice, and to rely on Your strength rather than my own. Remind me that You are near and that You delight to lead me in the way I should go.

Help me to be salt and light in a world that is often filled with confusion, pain, and darkness. Let my actions, my words, and even my quiet presence reflect Your grace. Fill me with hope that is rooted firmly in You, so that others may see Your goodness through my life. May everything I do bring honor to Your name and draw others toward the love You so freely give.

Amen.

PART 7

THE NEW CREATION

IS THERE ANYTHING BEYOND THIS LIFE?

From creation to the cross, from resurrection to redemption, everything in Scripture has been leading us to the last part of the story. So, what happens next? The story of the Bible ends where it began—with God dwelling with His people in perfect harmony. The difference is that now, sin and death are gone forever. Because of Jesus, death isn't the end of the story. It's the doorway to what comes next. Through Jesus, we are promised a new creation, a restored world where everything is made right.

The Bible is clear, every life will one day stand before the throne of God. For those who have rejected Christ, judgment will bring separation, sorrow, and eternity in Hell—forever outside of God's presence. But for those in Christ, it will bring joy, peace, and eternity in Heaven forever in the presence of God.

The New Creation is a promise for the future that shapes how we live today. In Christ, our relationship with God is restored. And because it is, we can walk in hope, live without fear, and look forward to the day when faith becomes sight, and time gives way to eternity.

Eternity is not a distant dream; it's the final chapter of God's redemptive story.

To begin this week's study (Week 7) of the Story of the Bible, watch the seventh and final video of the series – **“The New Creation: Is There Anything Beyond This Life?”** – from the Story of the Bible playlist on the KYB – Know Your Bible YouTube Channel.

www.youtube.com/@KYB-Know-Your-Bible

THE NEW CREATION

JOURNAL ENTRY 1: TWO POSSIBLE OPTIONS

*Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the
righteous to eternal life.*

Matthew 25:46

The Bible is clear that eternity has only two destinations—life with God or separation from Him. This truth may be sobering, but it reveals both God’s justice and His mercy. He, in His goodness and love, offers every person the same opportunity to choose life through faith in Jesus Christ.

Additional Study:

- Deuteronomy 30:19
- Luke 16:19-31

Reflect:

- How does the reality of eternity shape the way you live your life?
- Why is it important that God gives us the choice to accept or reject Him?

Journal Space:

THE NEW CREATION

JOURNAL ENTRY 2: THE DAY OF JUDGMENT

*For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ,
so that each of us may receive what is due us for the
things done while in the body, whether good or bad.*

2 Corinthians 5:10

One day, every person will stand before God. For those in Christ, this moment will not be one of fear, but of fulfillment. Judgment reveals the truth of our hearts—but in Christ, that truth is covered by His righteousness.

Additional Study:

- Matthew 25:34-46
- Hebrews 9:27-28

Reflect:

- What emotions come to mind when you think about standing before God?
- How does knowing Christ's righteousness covers you change that perspective?

Journal Space:

THE NEW CREATION

JOURNAL ENTRY 3: NO FEAR

*There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear,
because fear has to do with punishment.*

1 John 4:18

Those who belong to Christ have no reason to fear judgment or death. Perfect love has driven out fear. Through Jesus, we stand forgiven and free—secure in His eternal embrace.

Additional Study:

- 1 Corinthians 15:55-57
- Romans 8:11

Reflect:

- When you begin to fear, what are some ways you can remind yourself that God's love has removed *all* fear?
- What areas of your life still need to be surrendered to that perfect love?

Journal Space:

THE NEW CREATION

JOURNAL ENTRY 4: TO DIE IS GAIN

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.
Philippians 1:21

For the believer, death is not the end—it's the beginning of a beautiful, eternal life with Jesus. Paul's words remind us that while we have purpose on earth, our greatest joy awaits *beyond* this life. Because of Christ, we can face death not with despair, but with hope.

Additional Study:

- Revelation 21:4
- 2 Corinthians 5:8

Reflect:

- How do Paul's words challenge the way you think about life and death?
- What does 'to live is Christ' look like in your daily choices?

Journal Space:

THE NEW CREATION

JOURNAL ENTRY 5: THE CROWN OF LIFE

Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

James 1:12

God promises eternal reward to those who remain faithful. The 'crown of life' is not just about heaven—it's the fullness of joy that comes from being with Jesus forever. Our struggles and our endurance in this life are never wasted; it leads to everlasting glory.

Additional Study:

- 2 Timothy 4:7-8
- 1 Corinthians 9:24-25

Reflect:

- What are some things that help you stay faithful when life gets difficult?
- How does the promise of eternal life give you strength for today?

Journal Space:

PRAYER PROMPT

Father, thank You for the promise of eternal life through Jesus Christ. Because of Him, death does not have the final word, and I have a hope that reaches beyond anything this world can offer. Thank You that eternity is not just a distant idea, but a present assurance that shapes how I live right now. Let this promise anchor my heart when I face uncertainty, suffering, or the unknown. Help me to remember that my story is held securely in Your hands.

Teach me to live each day with eternity in mind—without fear, but with steady faith, enduring hope, and quiet perseverance. Let the truth of Your glory, love, and presence shine through the way I speak, serve, and love those around me. May my life reflect the joy of belonging to You, and may I live with anticipation for the day I see You face-to-face. Until then, keep me faithful, keep me hopeful, and keep me close to You.

Amen.

The Story Continues

The Story of the Bible is the story of God's relentless love and desire for relationship. He made a perfect world, pursued His people after every fall, and ultimately sent His Son to rescue and redeem. One day, He will make all things new. The story doesn't end with the pages of Scripture—it continues in you.

Key Takeaways

- The Beginning: You were created by a good God, made with a purpose, and you are deeply loved.
- The Fall: Sin broke what was perfect, but God promised redemption.
- The Pursuit: God never stopped seeking His people and, from the moment sin entered the world, began enacting His plan to bring us back into relationship with Him.
- The Rescue: Jesus came to live perfectly under the law, and to be the perfect sacrificial lamb, so that he could restore what was lost.
- The Victory: Jesus' victory is ultimately our victory. His resurrection opens the door for us to claim the same victory that Jesus has over death.
- The Invitation: We're called to be made new in Christ, and live out our faith as a beacon of light in a dark and broken world.
- The New Creation: God's story doesn't end for those in Christ. It results in eternal restoration—and a new beginning with Him.

Closing Reflection

As you finish this study, take time to reflect on how God's story intersects with your own. Where have you seen His hand at work? What has He revealed to you through His Word and throughout this study? This is not the end of your journey—it's an invitation to keep walking with Him daily.

KYB Invitation

Keep your momentum in God's word going! We'd love to continue studying with you. You can request an in-depth Bible study, supported by a KYB Study Helper, by completing the form at www.knowyourbible.com/biblestudyrequest. We look forward to continuing to meet you in the pages of God's word.

CLOSING PRAYER

LORD, THANK YOU FOR THIS STUDY AND THE OPPORTUNITIES IT PROVIDED FOR ME TO DIVE DEEPER INTO YOUR WORD AND SEEK TO KNOW YOU BETTER. THANK YOU FOR REVEALING YOUR STORY THROUGH THE PAGES OF YOUR WORD AND THROUGH MY LIFE. HELP ME TO LIVE AS A REFLECTION OF YOUR LOVE EACH DAY – TO WALK IN FAITH, SHARE YOUR HOPE TO THOSE AROUND ME, ALWAYS LOOKING AHEAD TO THE DAY YOU MAKE ALL THINGS NEW. UNTIL THEN, LET MY LIFE TELL OF YOUR GOODNESS AND GRACE.

AMEN.