

## **Resources for Reading the Bible**

These miscellaneous resources will aid in shaping your approach of how to read the Bible.

[How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth](#) by Gordon Fee

[How to Read the Bible Book by Book](#) by Gordon Fee & Douglas Stuart

[A Survey of the Old Testament](#) by Andrew Hill & John Walton

[Reading the New Testament as Christian Scripture](#) by Constantine Campbell & Jonathan Pennington

[Women of the Word](#) by Jen Wilkin

## **Bible Commentaries**

Bible commentaries provide a verse-by-verse analysis and explanation of each passage in a particular biblical book. Each commentary series will have a different expertise or emphasis, and each author will have their own theological paradigm that they write from. All in all, not all commentaries are equal and it is always wise to consult a few commentaries when studying a passage.

**Accessible Commentaries** – Quality resources that are easy to understand

[Faithlife Study Bible](#) (Free!)

[God's Word for You Commentary Series \(Old and New Testament\)](#)

[Lexham Context Commentary: Old Testament](#)

[Lexham Context Commentary: New Testament](#)

[Tyndale Old Testament Commentary Series](#)

[Tyndale New Testament Commentary Series](#)

[Story of God Bible Commentary Series](#)

[The Bible Speaks Today Old Testament Commentary Series](#)

[The Bible Speaks Today New Testament Commentary Series](#)

[NIV Application Commentary Old Testament](#)

[NIV Application Commentary New Testament](#)

[Preaching the Word Commentary Series](#)

**Intermediate Commentaries** – More in-depth; assumes the reader has some biblical knowledge

[The Bible Knowledge Background Commentary: New Testament](#)

[The Expositor's Bible Commentary](#)

[New American Commentary Series \(Old and New Testament\)](#)

[Osborne New Testament Commentary Series](#)

[Pillar New Testament Commentary Series](#)

[New International Commentary on the Old Testament](#)

[New International Commentary on the New Testament](#)

[Zondervan Exegetical Commentary \(Old and New Testament\)](#)

[New Interpreters Bible Commentary](#)

### **Advanced Commentaries** – Academic and scholarly

[Evangelical Exegetical Commentary \(many volumes are still in development\)](#)

[New International Greek Testament Commentary Series](#)

[Word Biblical Commentary Series \(Old and New Testament\)](#)

## **Bible Dictionaries**

Bible dictionaries provide numerous articles on important biblical topics, themes, persons, or ideas. The purpose and the audience will range depending on the dictionary.

[Lexham Bible Dictionary](#) (Free!)

- This resource only exists in a digital format (accessible on a computer, tablet, or smart phone). However, it is one of the best Bible dictionaries available (and yet it is free!). It has over 7,000 articles written by over 700 contributors of biblical scholarship.

[New Dictionary of Biblical Theology](#)

- This resource has over 200 articles on key themes in the Bible (such as creation, kingdom of God, atonement, etc.). Each article is written to give you a cover-to-cover understanding of the biblical theme. It contains readable articles written by trusted scholars.

[IVP Bible Dictionary Series \(8 vols.\)](#)

- This collection covers the whole scope of the Bible spread over 8 volumes (though the volumes can be purchased individually based on interest). Since each volume specializes in a different part of the Bible, the articles are more specific and contextualized to the interpretive issues of that section of Scripture. The series is excellent and credible.

[Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary](#)

- This resource is the easiest read of this list. While it will not be the most in-depth resource it is accessible and useful.

## **Resources for Word Studies**

Word studies are an enriching part of Bible study, but they are not without their challenges. These resources are the most difficult to understand if someone has not been trained in biblical languages. However, even a lay person can learn to wade through these resources and glean from their insights. Otherwise, word studies will be left to the times and occasions when other resources (like commentaries or Bible dictionaries) bring up the word. Listed are only the most user-friendly resources, forgoing a more extensive list that academics or biblical trained ministers would look to.

### **The most user-friendly resources for word studies for a lay reader**

[Lexham Theological Wordbook](#)

[Expository Dictionary of Bible Words](#)

[Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary](#)

### **For Hebrew word studies**

[Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament](#)

[New International of Old Testament Theology and Exegesis](#)

[CHALOT](#)

### **For Greek word studies**

[Theological Dictionary of the New Testament \(Abridged in one volume\)](#)

[New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology and Exegesis](#)

[BDAG](#)

## **Monographs**

Monographs are “one-off” books that have a thesis, argument, and conclusion all in one. These are just resources that are helpful in shaping a biblical theology.

[What is the Trinity?](#) by R.C. Sproul (Free!)

[The Unseen Realm](#) by Michael Heiser

[Simply Jesus](#) by N.T. Wright

[The Incarnation of God](#) by John C. Clark & Marcus Peter Johnson

[A Resurrected Cosmos](#) by Brayden Brookshier

[Marriage and the Mystery of the Gospel](#) by Raymond C. Ortlund Jr.

## Apologetics

Apologetics resources are unique on this guide since they do not necessarily help you better understand the Bible, but they do help you defend the claims of a biblical worldview. Apologetics involves the study of the rationale and defense of the Christian faith. These resources each have their own contribution to the study, and are worth owning in your library of resources.

[Tactics](#) by Greg Koukl

[Broken Signposts: How Christianity Makes Sense of the World](#) by N.T. Wright

[The Creator and the Cosmos](#) by Hugh Ross

[I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist](#) by Norman Geisler

[The Bedrock of Christianity: The Unalterable Facts of Jesus' Death and Resurrection](#) by Justin Bass

[Myths and Mistakes of Textual Criticism](#) by Elijah Hixson

[Cold-Case Christianity: A Homicide Detective Investigates the Claims of the Gospels](#) by J. Warner Wallace

[Mere Christianity](#) by C.S. Lewis

[Four Views on Hell](#) by Zondervan