

THE STORY

Introduction to The Story

Have you ever set a goal to read the entire Bible? Many people want to know more about what God is like and to comprehend the wisdom the Bible offers for living life to its fullest.

Not knowing where to start reading or getting started and then lost in the details of the Bible can be very frustrating. To overcome such hurdles, it is helpful to get exposed first to the big picture. Learning how God's story and our story are intertwined unlocks fresh understanding about God's character and deep love for us.

It is helpful, for example, to learn the Bible contains two simultaneous narratives: an Upper Story and a Lower Story. The Upper Story tells the big picture, the grand unfolding of God's plan from the beginning of time. The Lower Story contains the details of the human experience or earthly history at that time. Without the lens of the Upper Story, the Lower Story seems out of focus and perplexing.

At Messiah it is our goal to help every person grow in their understanding of the Bible and to receive the rich benefits of drawing on God's Word as personal guidance for daily living.

Starting this Fall, we are excited to offer an opportunity to read through the entire Bible together. Using an abridged version of the Bible, called The Story, we will journey through the Bible in a new and exciting way....following the action in chronological order. In The Story there are no verse references and the segments of scripture are woven together with transition text to connect everything like a novel.

For people new to the Bible, this way of reading and comprehending it will be simply insightful. For seasoned Bible readers, the chronological arrangement of essential texts will reveal a fresh perspective surely to take you back to your favorite translation for further exploration.

Through the process of learning from the Bible we will progressively understand our call as individuals and as a church to Love God and Love One Another.

The Story starts September 13. Pastor Angela and Pastor Bob will be giving their Sunday messages each week based on a chapter of The Story. Our children and students' programs will also be reading and following The Story material. There will be weekly adult Bible Study discussions on Wednesday evenings (7pm) and on Sunday mornings (9:30am) with childcare available.

What value might come from understanding the unique intersection of God's story and your story better? Come, let's journey, and find out, together!