

SESSION 3 LISTENING GUIDE

ONE EPIC STORY: 5 CHAPTERS, 1 TO GO.

We can think of The Bible as the Epic story of God played out in 5 big chapters...with 1 chapter left to go.

Two main sections:

- Old Testament (39 Books)
- New Testament (27 Books)

There are 66 total books, but they are not in chronological order.

5 Chapters with 1 chapter to go:

1. Creation: Genesis 1 & 2
2. The Fall: Genesis 3 - 11
3. Israel: Genesis 12 - Malachi
4. JESUS: Matthew - John (The Gospels)
5. The Church**: Acts - Revelation
6. New Creation: Revelation 21 - 22

***We are currently living in this chapter; the one that is still going on.*

It's important to get into the habit of thinking about the Bible's individual stories within the bigger EPIC story of God.

SESSION 3

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Before discussing today's session, spend a few minutes reviewing the previous 2 sessions by discussing the following:
 - a) What does this quote from session 1 mean: "*We can go a long time and forget that we are part of a very important story.*"
 - b) Read 2 Timothy 3:16. Recall as a group what this verse teaches about the Bible itself. The Bible is _____. The Bible is _____.
 - c) In session 2, we talked about the authority of the Bible. With this in mind, what does this quote from session 2 mean to you: "*We need to be careful to use God's Word with God's Heart.*"
- 2) Now from today's session, without looking at your notes...try to name the '5 big chapters' in the Bible. What is the 6th? Can you recall the books/chapters where all 6 are found?
- 3) When reading an individual/smaller story within the Bible, why is it important to ask "where does this fit in the big story of the Bible? What 'chapter' does it belong to?"
- 4) As a group, come up with 5 - 10 stories from the Bible. Then determine together what 'chapter' they fit into in God's Epic story.