



BIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS

WHY ARE THERE SO MANY TRANSLATIONS OF THE BIBLE?

The Bible was originally written in Hebrew and Greek, and it has since been translated into English. However, translation is complicated, so there are different ways to make a good translation. Some translations take a literal (word-for-word) approach, while others paraphrase the thought and emotion from the original languages so the Bible makes sense for modern readers. Both approaches intend to provide people with access to God's Word, and both approaches encounter difficulties in practice. Literal (word-for-word) translation doesn't always work from one language to the next; some words don't have exact equivalents, and sentence structure often follows different rules in different languages, which can make a literal translation very confusing to understand and comprehend. On the other hand, paraphrasing to convey the intended message lacks accuracy in representing the wording of the original text. Some translations aim for a "thought-for-thought" compromise of these values to balance readability and accuracy. Each method is valuable for different circumstances.



WHERE SOME OF OUR BIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS FALL ON THAT SPECTRUM:

WORD-FOR-WORD

English Standard Version (ESV)

The ESV is great for in-depth study of the Bible.

THOUGHT-FOR-THOUGHT

New International Version (NIV)

The NIV is the translation used in Sunday messages at Blackhawk.

PARAPHRASE

New Living Translation (NLT)

The NLT uses everyday language to explain some of the more difficult terms in the Bible.

The Message (MSG)

If you continually find yourself getting frustrated by the language of the Bible, the Message can be a good place to start. Written to sound like the way we talk, it can be a helpful second translation to have on hand when the others don't make sense.





STUDENTS

GRADES 6-12

WANT TO GET STARTED READING THE BIBLE FOR YOURSELF?
HERE ARE SOME RESOURCES WE RECOMMEND.

APPS

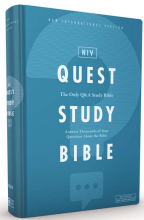


[You Version](#)

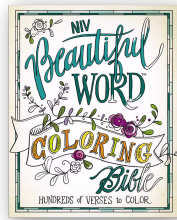


[BibleProject](#)

BIBLES



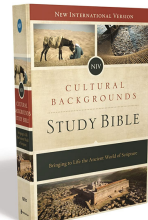
[Quest NIV Study Bible](#)



[Beautiful Word
Coloring Bible, NIV](#)



[NLT Teen
Life Application Bible](#)



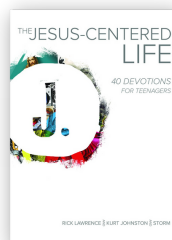
[Cultural Backgrounds
Study Bible, NIV](#)

TIP: Don't buy a Bible as a gift for someone else. Instead, give the gift of a shared Bible shopping experience.
Browse the options together & let them pick the Bible they're drawn to.

DEVOTIONALS



[Simple Truth Devotions](#)



[Jesus-Centered Life Devotion](#)



[One Minute Bible for Students](#)