

A LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

The Bible is for you.

As two people who came to know Jesus when we were little kids and grew up to lead a worldwide community of Bible readers, you would think we've outgrown the need for this reminder. But the truth is, there are still days when we feel unqualified, uninspired, or simply unable to open our Bibles. The difference between now and when we founded She Reads Truth thirteen years ago is that we no longer have to rely on feelings, because now we have something better—we have proof.

Every day for thirteen years we've watched as women from all over the world have opened their Bibles and met God there. Whatever season of life they're in, whatever hard things are going on in the world, whatever they are celebrating or grieving or longing for—God's Word is for them, and it is constant and true. God has given us—all of us—the gift of Scripture so that we can know Him.

Reading the Bible might feel like a tall order. After all, it is the only book of its kind: sixty-six books but one story, ancient but also living, divinely inspired but also layered with historical context that can make it seem distant or even irrelevant. We created *The Bible Is for You* to show you how intimately, personally, and specifically the Bible is indeed for you. We say this with confidence now because reading it has shaped our hearts and our lives, not just once, but today and every day. Even as we curated the passages and essays you'll read in this devotional book, we found ourselves in awe yet again—high-fiving over connections in Scripture we'd never seen before, or tears streaming, staggered and hopeful at God's unshakable promises. The Word of God is an endless well of truth, and we are determined to keep lowering our buckets.

Wherever you are in your journey with the Bible, we hope this devotional book will serve as a warm welcome into the pages of Scripture. From Genesis to Revelation, you'll get a glimpse into each book of the Bible and how it fits into the whole. One book at a time, you'll read key sections from that book along with curated passages from other parts of Scripture, to help you connect the dots and see how it all tells one story: the story of a holy God and His merciful pursuit of the people He created and loves.

We pray these sixty-six devotions will give you a bigger window into the beauty, goodness, and truth of the Bible. It is a story that is as vast as it is personal, as powerful as it is precious. It is a gift, and it is for you.

Read on,

Raechel & Amanda

DESIGN ON PURPOSE

At She Reads Truth, we believe design says and does so much in a book before a single word is read, so we always seek to design with purpose. This is our chance to tell you, our reader, why the book you're holding looks and feels like it does and, if we did our jobs right, how your experience will be shaped because of the purpose in our design. **Mind if we show you around?**

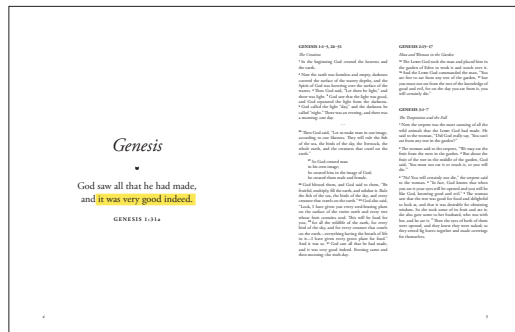
To start, the cover art is a seventeenth-century work titled "The Garden of Eden" by Belgian painter Jan Brueghel. Just like the story of humanity is bookended by gardens—with Eden in Genesis and the new heavens and new earth in Revelation—we used a canvas-like cover paper to wrap the garden painting from front to back. This reminds us that, despite (and because of) everything that happens in the middle of the story, we begin and end with the presence of God in a garden. This centuries-old painting is overlaid with the book's title in a modern type and bright color to juxtapose the old and new, much like the ancient words of Scripture that still have power to transform our lives today.

You have probably noticed that this book doesn't have a typical covered spine or binding. We left the bound pages of the book exposed on the spine as a visual reminder that the Bible is both one book and a collection of sixty-six books written and assembled over time to complete God's special revelation of Scripture.

Moving inside to the sixty-six devotionals, you will see things are set up a little differently than a typical devotional book. Each book of the Bible begins with a key verse and a curated Scripture reading that will give you a good idea of what is happening in that particular book, followed by related passages from other parts of the Bible. And we don't simply list the references—we've put the actual words of the text right there on the page. Reading Scripture is our main thing at She Reads Truth, and it's important to us that we invite you to read the words God Himself inspired before offering words of our own.

After you've read the Scripture, we invite you to read the devotional that follows. These essays are meant to be a response to God's Word, arrows pointing back to Scripture. They're even presented in a different typeface to make it extra clear which words are ours and which are His. The yellow highlighter is there not just to draw attention to key words or phrases, but to encourage you to engage fully with what you're reading.

We hope each of these individual design choices combine to help you draw connections as you read and discover that yes, *The Bible Is for You.*



Genesis



God saw all that he had made,
and it was very good indeed.

GENESIS 1:31a

GENESIS 1:1–5, 26–31

The Creation

¹ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

² Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness covered the surface of the watery depths, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. ³ Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴ God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” There was an evening, and there was a morning: one day.

...

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness. They will rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the livestock, the whole earth, and the creatures that crawl on the earth.”

²⁷ So God created man
in his own image;
he created him in the image of God;
he created them male and female.

²⁸ God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and every creature that crawls on the earth.” ²⁹ God also said, “Look, I have given you every seed-bearing plant on the surface of the entire earth and every tree whose fruit contains seed. This will be food for you, ³⁰ for all the wildlife of the earth, for every bird of the sky, and for every creature that crawls on the earth—everything having the breath of life in it—I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹ God saw all that he had made, and it was very good indeed. Evening came and then morning: the sixth day.

GENESIS 2:15–17

Man and Woman in the Garden

¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and placed him in the garden of Eden to work it and watch over it. ¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree of the garden, ¹⁷ but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for on the day you eat from it, you will certainly die.”

GENESIS 3:1–7

The Temptation and the Fall

¹ Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the wild animals that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You can’t eat from any tree in the garden?’”

² The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat the fruit from the trees in the garden. ³ But about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God said, ‘You must not eat it or touch it, or you will die.’”

⁴ “No! You will certainly not die,” the serpent said to the woman. ⁵ “In fact, God knows that when you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶ The woman saw that the tree was good for food and delightful to look at, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it; she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

JOHN 1:1–3

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ All things were created through him, and apart from him not one thing was created that has been created.

COLOSSIANS 1:15–17

The Centrality of Christ

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

¹⁶ For everything was created by him, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through him and for him.

¹⁷ He is before all things, and by him all things hold together.

ROMANS 8:18–23

From Groans to Glory

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation eagerly waits with anticipation for God's sons to be revealed. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility—not willingly, but because of him who subjected it—in the hope ²¹ that the creation itself will also be set free from the bondage to decay into the glorious freedom of God's children. ²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together with labor pains until now. ²³ Not only that, but we ourselves who have the Spirit as the firstfruits—we also groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

*In a hole in the ground there lived a hobbit.*¹

*All children, except one, grow up.*²

*It was the best of times, it was the worst of times . . .*³

Of all the famous first lines in literature, I've always loved the Bible's most: *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

When I read these opening words of Genesis, I'm often tempted to focus on the "how." *How has God always existed? How did He create the world? How does He hold everything together?* I dig for answers about timelines and processes. But Scripture doesn't emphasize the "how" of creation as much as it draws our attention to the "who": God, the Creator.

God speaks and acts with purpose. He speaks the universe into existence. By His word, He sets the sky, land, and oceans into place. Animals swarm and plants flourish at His command. None of this happens randomly—each part of the universe is arranged by Him. We live our lives in the world He has created and sustains with purpose.

Genesis 1 repeats the phrase "and God saw that it was good" five times, one for each day of creation (and a sixth time when He calls His entire creation "very good"). Later in the story, we see sin darken the world with sickness, death, deception, decay, betrayal, and greed. But it wasn't created this way. It was created wholly good, and God had a plan to make it whole and good once again.

Yes, all the way in the beginning, our good God began writing the story of the gospel.

The book of Genesis plants the seeds of the four movements of this gospel story: creation, fall, redemption, and restoration. While creation and the fall are easy to spot in the first three chapters, redemption and restoration are already at work—from the first promise of the Messiah (Genesis 3:15) to the redemptive stories of men like Noah, Abraham, and Joseph. All of Genesis points to the day when God Himself would step into His own creation to redeem and restore it once and for all time (Revelation 21:5).

The Creator demonstrated His love for us in that "while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). And not only for us—Jesus died so that all creation might be restored to its whole and good design. He is creation's redeemer! And He is our redeemer.

The good news of the gospel story is for you, whoever you are, right where you are today. It's a reminder of truth for those who believe, a message of deliverance for those who don't yet believe, a refuge for those seeking or doubting, and a light for anyone in between.

The opening words of Scripture invite you to know and be known by the God who still speaks and acts with purpose—and still works to make all things "very good."

Where do you see His redemption work today?

Creation was wholly good, and God had a plan to make it whole and good once again.

Exodus



“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the place of slavery.”

EXODUS 20:2

EXODUS 6:2–8

God Promises Freedom

² Then God spoke to Moses, telling him, “I am the LORD. ³ I appeared to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as God Almighty, but I was not known to them by my name ‘the LORD.’ ⁴ I also established my covenant with them to give them the land of Canaan, the land they lived in as aliens. ⁵ Furthermore, I have heard the groaning of the Israelites, whom the Egyptians are forcing to work as slaves, and I have remembered my covenant.

⁶ “Therefore tell the Israelites: I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from the forced labor of the Egyptians and rescue you from slavery to them. I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and great acts of judgment. ⁷ I will take you as my people, and I will be your God. You will know that I am the LORD your God, who brought you out from the forced labor of the Egyptians. ⁸ I will bring you to the land that I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and I will give it to you as a possession. I am the LORD.”

EXODUS 15:1–3

Israel’s Song

¹ Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD. They said:

I will sing to the LORD,
for he is highly exalted;
he has thrown the horse
and its rider into the sea.

² The LORD is my strength and my song;
he has become my salvation.
This is my God, and I will praise him,
my father’s God, and I will exalt him.

³ The LORD is a warrior;
the LORD is his name.

EXODUS 19:1–6

Israel at Sinai

¹ In the third month from the very day the Israelites left the land of Egypt, they came to the Sinai Wilderness. ² They traveled from Rephidim, came to the Sinai Wilderness, and camped in the wilderness. Israel camped there in front of the mountain.

³ Moses went up the mountain to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain: “This is what you must say to the house of Jacob and explain to the Israelites: ⁴ ‘You have seen what I did to the Egyptians and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. ⁵ Now if you will carefully listen to me and keep my covenant, you will be my own possession out of all the peoples, although the whole earth is mine, ⁶ and you will be my kingdom of priests and my holy nation.’ These are the words that you are to say to the Israelites.”

EXODUS 20:1–6

The Ten Commandments

¹ Then God spoke all these words:

² I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the place of slavery.

³ Do not have other gods besides me.

⁴ Do not make an idol for yourself, whether in the shape of anything in the heavens above or on the earth below or in the waters under the earth. ⁵ Do not bow in worship to them, and do not serve them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, bringing the consequences of the fathers’ iniquity on the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing faithful love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commands.

HOSEA 13:4

“I have been the LORD your God
ever since the land of Egypt;
you know no God but me,
and no Savior exists besides me.”

MATTHEW 5:17–18

Christ Fulfills the Law

¹⁷ “Don’t think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or one stroke of a letter will pass away from the law until all things are accomplished.”

HEBREWS 2:14–15

Jesus and Humanity

¹⁴ Now since the children have flesh and blood in common, Jesus also shared in these, so that through his death he might destroy the one holding the power of death—that is, the devil— ¹⁵ and free those who were held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death.

One Saturday when my kids were little, I listened to the book of Exodus all the way through. I'd never read the book in one sitting before, and I wanted to get a sense of Exodus as a piece of literature, rather than a series of chapters and verses. By the end I was moved to tears.

There were plenty of interruptions, so it took the entire day, but there was a sweetness in our home as the story of God's salvation filled the air from breakfast to dinner. For a while, my young daughter lay at my feet and fiddled with toys, listening to the story while it played. As the Israelites crossed the Red Sea and Miriam sang her song, my girl sang a version she'd learned in school: "Sing to the LORD, for he is highly exalted; he has thrown the horse and its rider into the sea" (Exodus 15:21).

In the afternoon, I listened as God gave instructions to build the tabernacle. I noticed my husband find a place on the nearby sofa to listen as God appointed and equipped Bezalel to be the chief designer and executor of the process. I could tell by my husband's interest that these chapters hold a special place in his design-loving heart.

As evening set in, I moved to our back porch to listen to the final chapters. God sweetly gathered my family to listen with me as "the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle" (Exodus 40:35). I replayed the last few paragraphs several times, in awe of the nearness of God to His people then and His nearness to us still. God seemed more holy and magnificent than ever before. But in reality, He's the same—yesterday, today, forever (Hebrews 13:8).

Exodus is a story of salvation. And it's our heritage—*our* story of salvation. It starts with God delivering the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, Pharaoh and his army in hot pursuit, and Moses saying to God's people, "Don't be afraid. Stand firm and see the LORD's salvation that he will accomplish for you today" (Exodus 14:13). But it doesn't end there. The story unfolds in our lives, too. God saved His people that day through Moses, and He saves us even now, through the completed work of Jesus Christ.

As believers, we have been set free—this time not from Egypt, but from sin and death. Like Israel did, we encounter God's presence—this time not because we built a tabernacle for Him to dwell in, but because He came to "tabernacle" among us and in us, through the work of His Son and by the power of His Spirit (1 Corinthians 3:16; Ephesians 2:22).

Yes, the Exodus story is our story, and it is a story worth sharing. Let it ring out in your home! Let the truth of God's salvation move you to tears of praise. The Lord, He is God. And you—you are free.

I wanted to get a sense of Exodus as a piece of literature, rather than a series of chapters and verses.



THE BIBLE IS FOR YOU. This is the conviction that sparked She Reads Truth, a worldwide movement of women committed to open their Bibles every day. And it is the invitation of this 66-day devotional from co-founders Raechel Myers and Amanda Bible Williams.

From Genesis to Revelation, Raechel and Amanda have curated a widely accessible and deeply impactful journey through every book of the Bible to help you engage God's Word right where you are. Each day includes personal stories and reflections—but first, it starts with Scripture. Carefully selected passages represent each book, along with passages from across Scripture to connect the dots in God's story of redemption. And in signature She Reads Truth style, every Scripture reading is printed right there on the page! In 66 devotions, you will encounter the unchanging truth of God's Word, one book of the Bible at a time.

If you are new to God's Word, the Bible is for you.

If you have spent years in the stories of Scripture, the Bible is for you.

If your heart feels hopeful or heavy or a little bit of both, the Bible is for you.

If you are holding this book in your hand, the Bible is for you.

You are meant to read it, and you can start today.

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