

For July 12-13 The #1 Best Seller

The Bible is the #1 best seller of all time, and is the single most important book ever written. It is filled with Divine inspiration. It has eyewitness account of historical events of such magnitude that they have literally shaped the world in which we live.

The Bible is where you can find God's guidelines for living, His wisdom for learning, and His loving promises to you. Our entire Catholic faith is based on the truth that is contained in the Bible.

It is not only a *good idea*, then, for Christians to read and study the Bible, it's really a **necessity**. St. Jerome, centuries ago, said: "*Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ.*"

Here are some more reasons why we should read and study the Bible:

We should read and study the Bible mainly because it is God's Word to us. There are so many questions that philosophers have asked that God answers for us in Scripture, such as: What is the purpose to life? Where did I come from? Is there life after death? How do I get to heaven? Why is the world full of evil? Why do I struggle to do good?

In addition to these "big" questions, the Bible gives much practical advice in areas such as: What do I look for in a mate? How can I have a successful marriage? How can I be a good friend? How can I be a good parent? What is success and how do I achieve it? How can I change? What really matters in life? How can I live so that I do not look back with regret? How can I handle the unfair circumstances and bad events of life victoriously?

We should read and study the Bible because God does not change and because mankind's nature does not change. God's Word is as relevant for us today as it was when it was written. While technology changes, mankind's nature and desires do not change.

The wisdom of the Bible tells us: "there is nothing new under the sun" (Ecclesiastes 1:9). And while mankind as a whole continues to seek love and satisfaction in all of the wrong places, God—our good and gracious Creator—tells us what will bring us lasting joy. His revealed Word, the Bible, is so important that Jesus said of it, "Man does not live on bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). In other words, if we want to live life to the fullest, as God intended, we must listen to and follow God's Word.

We should read and study the Bible because there is so much false teaching in our world of mass media. So many people feel bad about themselves because they define themselves by the standards of modern society. The Bible tells us how God defines us, namely, we are God's children (Jn 1:12), we precious in God's sight (Is 43:4), we have been redeemed and forgiven (Col 1:14), we are members of the body of Christ (1 Cor 12:27), we have access to God through the Holy Spirit (Eph 2:6), and much more.

How many books will you read in your lifetime? Some you will remember forever. Make sure you read and study the #1 best seller of all time. The Word of God sown in your heart will change your life for eternity.