"Every Day in the Bible" by Mary Wiley
Publication Date: October 1, 2026
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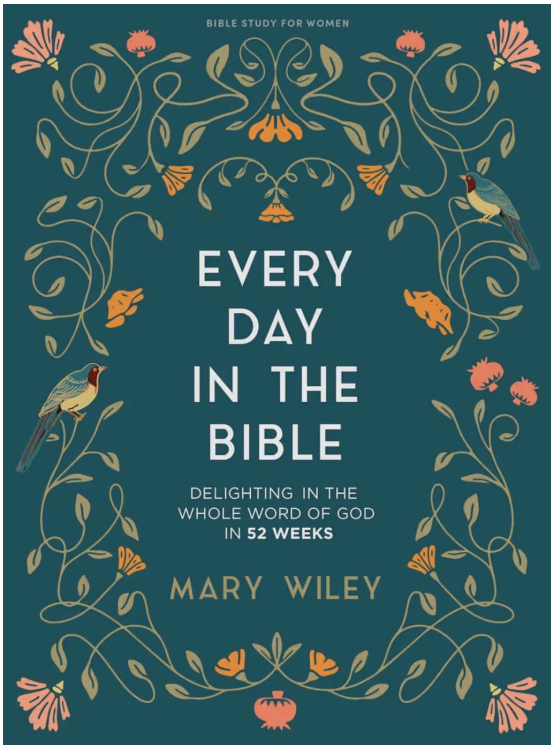
'Every Day in the Bible,' new study by Mary Wiley, helps readers connect Scripture as one unified story

BRENTWOOD, Tenn., Sept. 3, 2026 — Interest in the Bible is rising across the United States, but for many readers, knowing how to understand Scripture remains a challenge. In 2025, 19 million Bibles were sold in the U.S. — the highest number in 21 years and a 12% increase from 2024, according to Circana BookScan data reported by Publishers Weekly.



American Bible Society research has also found growing numbers of Americans who are open and curious about Scripture but want help navigating its complexity.

For Bible teacher and author Mary Wiley, that gap between wanting to read Scripture and knowing how to understand it is exactly where "Every Day in the Bible: Delighting in the Whole Word of God in 52 Weeks" (Lifeway, October 1, 2026) begins.

The yearlong study guides readers through all 66 books of the Bible with an emphasis not simply on completing Scripture, but understanding how it fits together, seeing how the Old and New Testaments illuminate one another and recognizing Jesus at the center of the biblical story.

"When we see the Bible as one big story, we begin to understand that these aren't simply disconnected stories giving us people to imitate or rules to follow," Wiley said. Every part of Scripture is revealing who God is and ultimately pointing us to Jesus. My hope is that as people read through the whole Bible won't just finish a plan, they'll become people who understand God's Word more deeply, delight in it more fully and come away loving the God it reveals."

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Rather than moving straight from Genesis to Revelation or following a strictly chronological plan, Wiley organizes the readings around biblical connections and shared themes. Each quarter begins in a Gospel, regularly returning readers to the life and work of Jesus before moving through Old and New Testament books that shed light on one another. Each week also gives readers tools to engage Scripture more deeply, with opportunities to preview the text, record questions and observations, identify what a passage reveals about God, summarize key ideas, pray Scripture and reflect individually or in community.

A companion series of 365 podcast episodes extends the study into everyday life. Each episode includes the day's Scripture reading, commentary exploring key themes and connections throughout the Bible, prayer and a central truth for listeners to meditate on throughout the day.

The yearlong experience will also extend to the next generation with "Every Day in the Bible – Teen Girls' Bible Study" (Lifeway, Nov. 3, 2026). Designed for girls ages 12-18, the 52-week study follows the same whole-Bible approach while adapting its teaching, reflection and discussion for teens.

Together, the adult and teen editions give mothers and daughters, mentors and students, and women and girls within the local church an opportunity to journey through the same biblical story and cultivate meaningful conversations about God's Word across generations.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mary Wiley is a Bible teacher and the author of "Every Day in the Bible," "Everyday Theology: What You Believe Matters: and "Our Highest Good." She holds an MA in theological studies and serves as the associate publisher at B&H Publishing Group. She and her husband, John, have four children and live in the Nashville area.

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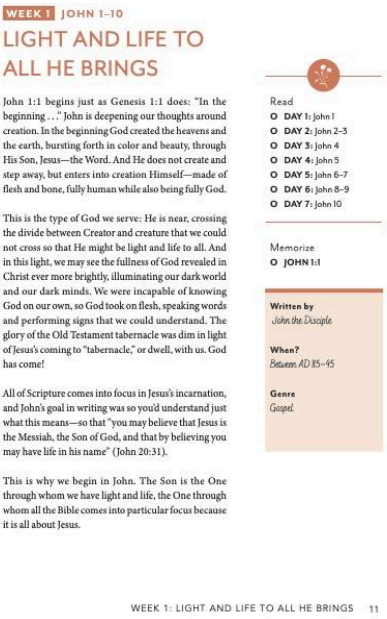
INTERIOR SAMPLES



WEEK 1 JOHN 1–10

LIGHT AND LIFE TO ALL HE BRINGS

John 1:1 begins just as Genesis 1:1 does: "In the beginning . . ." John is deepening our thoughts around creation. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, bursting forth in color and beauty, through His Son, Jesus—the Word. And He does not create and step away, but enters into creation Himself—made of flesh and bone, fully human while also being fully God.

This is the type of God we serve: He is near, crossing the divide between Creator and creature that we could not cross so that He might be light and life to all. And in this light, we may see the fullness of God revealed in Christ ever more brightly, illuminating our dark world and our dark minds. We were incapable of knowing God on our own, so God took on flesh, speaking words and performing signs that we could understand. The glory of the Old Testament tabernacle was dim in light of Jesus's coming to "tabernacle," or dwell, with us. God has come!

All of Scripture comes into focus in Jesus's incarnation, and John's goal in writing was so you'd understand just what this means—so that "you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:31).

This is why we begin in John. The Son is the One through whom we have light and life, the One through whom all the Bible comes into particular focus because it is all about Jesus.

Read
- O **DAY 1:** John 1
- O **DAY 2:** John 2–3
- O **DAY 3:** John 4
- O **DAY 4:** John 5
- O **DAY 5:** John 6–7
- O **DAY 6:** John 8–9
- O **DAY 7:** John 10

Memorize
- O **JOHN 1:1**

Written by
John the Disciple

When?
Between AD 85–95

Genre
Gospel

WEEK 1: LIGHT AND LIFE TO ALL HE BRINGS 11

WEEK 1

REVIEW AND REFLECT

What is the good news in this week's passages?

How do the passages show Jesus is both God and man?

How do these passages show God's great love for His people?

READ JOHN 1. How does Jesus taking on flesh in all its brokenness encourage you this week?

Review your highlights or noted passages. How do these references emphasize that Jesus is truly the Messiah? (If you are familiar with the Old Testament story, consider how some of the ways Jesus is described might connect to it.)

How does Jesus's conversation with Nicodemus in chapter 3 reveal Jesus is the Messiah? READ NUMBERS 21:4-9 to be reminded of the story Jesus refers to in John 3:14-15.

In John 6:30-35, Jesus calls Himself the Bread of Life, just like the manna that sustained the Israelites in the wilderness (see Ex. 16). How have you seen Jesus provide for and sustain you or someone you know?

What questions are still unanswered from your week of study?

Spend time thanking God for His Word and the truths you've read this week.

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7 SIGNS

Throughout his Gospel, John reveals Jesus as the promised Messiah. He chooses seven signs to highlight this.

1. **TURNING WATER INTO WINE AT A WEDDING AT CANA (JOHN 2:1-12)**
Jesus used the jars meant for ceremonial purification to provide for the need at this wedding. His first recorded miracle illustrated the new covenant brought through His blood, not through the old covenant ceremony, often associated with wine. A new kind of cleansing for the marriage of God and His people had come to pass.

2. **HEALING THE OFFICIAL'S SON (JOHN 4:46-54)**
Jesus healed from afar with words. Like at creation, Jesus only spoke the words and life sprang forth.

3. **HEALING THE PARALYTIC AT BETHESDA (JOHN 5:1-16)**
A man was miraculously healed by the spoken words of Jesus, but the scandal of it all was that to take up one's mat and walk was prohibited on the Sabbath by Jewish law, but not by biblical law. Jesus proved His authority over all—laws, days, life, and health.

4. **FEEDING THE FIVE THOUSAND (JOHN 6:1-15)**
Jesus fed a multitude, meeting their physical need and demonstrating that He is the One who is the Bread of Life, which will not spoil or leave us hungry again.

5. **WALKING ON WATER (JOHN 6:16-21)**
Jesus went to His disciples as the One with power over the norms of creation. This instance holds thematic parallels with the Red Sea story in Exodus when God revealed His power by parting the seas.

6. **HEALING THE MAN BORN BLIND (JOHN 9:1-12)**
Jesus came to heal our physical ailments as well as our spiritual blindness so that we might see Him and His ways.

7. **RAISING LAZARUS FROM THE DEAD (JOHN 11)**
Jesus revealed He can raise people from the dead, not just physically, but He also brings God's people from death to life through His blood.[1]

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TALKING POINTS & INTERVIEW ANGLES

Why Reading the Whole Bible Can Feel So Overwhelming: Many Christians want to read the whole Bible but get stuck on difficult passages or lose the bigger picture. Wiley can talk about how understanding the Bible as one story can make it easier to follow.

Why the Old Testament Matters for Understanding Jesus: You cannot fully understand the New Testament without the Old Testament. Wiley can explain how the promises, themes and stories of the Old Testament help us better understand Jesus and the gospel.

What to Do When You Don't Understand What You're Reading: Every Bible reader comes across passages that are confusing. Wiley can share practical ways to keep going without feeling like you have to understand everything right away.

How to Keep Bible Reading From Becoming a Checklist: It is easy for a reading plan to become one more thing to finish. Wiley can talk about how daily Scripture reading can help us know God better and shape the way we live.

Helping the Next Generation Understand the Bible: Kids and teenagers need more than a collection of Bible stories. Wiley can talk about how parents and church leaders can help young people understand how those stories fit into the larger story of Scripture.

SUGGESTED INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- Why can reading the entire Bible feel so intimidating?
- You describe the Bible as one unified story. How does seeing Scripture that way change the way we read it?
- Why is understanding the connection between the Old and New Testaments so important?
- What would you say to Christians who struggle to understand why parts of the Old Testament still matter today?
- What themes become clearer when we read the Bible as a whole rather than as isolated stories and passages?
- How can readers recognize the ways Scripture points to Jesus without forcing connections that are not there?
- What is the difference between knowing individual Bible stories and understanding the story of the Bible?

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- How can Christians keep daily Bible reading from becoming another task to check off a list?
- How does understanding the whole story of Scripture shape what we believe about God?
- How can regularly reading the Bible change the way we understand God's character?
- Why are reflection and conversation with other believers valuable as we study Scripture?
- Why did you decide to create the companion podcast episodes alongside the daily readings, and how do they help readers go deeper?
- You have also created a youth study connected to this material. Why was it important to help younger readers understand the Bible as one unified story?
- What would you say to someone who has never read through the entire Bible before and is wondering where to begin?
- After a year with "Every Day in the Bible," what do you hope has changed in the way readers understand Scripture and know and love God?

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