

GRACE BIBLE CHURCH Growing Believer's Class

Selecting & Navigating Your Bible

Which Bible Should I Use?

The Protestant Bible

- 39 books in the OT
- 27 books in the NT

Other So-called "Christian" Bibles

- Douay version – adds the Apocrypha
- LDS version – adds the Book of Mormon

Many versions of the Protestant Bible

- King James Version (KJV or AV) – 1611 AD
- Revised Version (RV) – 1881
- Modern English versions:
 - New International Version (NIV)
 - New American Standard Bible (NASB)
 - King James (NKJV)
 - Many others

Our Recommendations:

- Our pastor does his own exegesis as basis for sermons, so any good English translation is OK
- True translations using latest available original language manuscripts
- Paraphrases okay for reference
- Greek / Hebrew interlinear for more academic studies

Selecting & Navigating Your Bible (Continued)

How Do We Navigate the Bible?

- The Bible divided into chapters and verses during 16th century
- Use the table of contents
- With a few exceptions the books of the Bible consist of 2 or more chapters
- Then chapters are divided into verses about a sentence or two long
- Shorthand way to reference *book*, *chapter*, and *verse*

For example: *John 3:16*

- “John” refers to the *book* of the Bible—the Gospel of John
- “3” refers to the *chapter*
- *Colon (:)* separates the chapter from the verse
- “16” refers to the specific *verse*

Other examples: *1st John 1:9*

“1st” refers to first *epistle* (letter) written by John (not the Gospel of John)

- *Eph. 2: 8, 9* – “Eph.” is short for *Ephesians*. *Comma (,)* separates two verses—“8, 9”
- *Rom. 5:1, 6* – Romans chapter 5 verses 1 & 6
- *John 10:27-30* – Gospel of John, chapter 10, verses 27, 28, 29, and 30