

How Not To Read the Bible

DISCUSSION GUIDE | April 12, 2026

BIG IDEA:

Not all of the rules of the Bible apply to you.

Message title: Rules

Scripture reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34, Hebrews 8:6-7 NIV

The Bible tells one unified story through a series of covenants, and understanding which covenant a passage belongs to helps explain why not every command applies the same way to Christians today. When we read Bible through the lens of the new covenant established by Jesus, the Old Testament becomes clearer and the whole Bible comes into focus as one unfolding rescue plan from God.

1. *Why do you think people resist the idea that “Not all of the rules in the Bible are for you,”?*
2. *How does the reality that the Bible is a collection of writings shaped by real people in real places and times change the way you approach it?*
3. *What stands out to you about God passing alone between the covenant pieces in Genesis 15? What does that reveal about grace?*
4. *How was the covenant at Sinai different from the covenant with Abraham?*
5. *When reading a command in Scripture, how might asking “Which covenant does this belong to?” help you interpret it more clearly?*

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE

This week, practice reading Scripture through the lens of covenant this week. Choose a passage from Exodus, Hosea, and James. Then ask yourself which covenant is each passage written within, who the original audience was and what it can teach you about God.