How do people think about the Bible?

The Bible is used in many Christians' daily lives in lots of ways, such as for **private prayer**, **collective worship** and **quiet reflection**.

A holy book for Christians

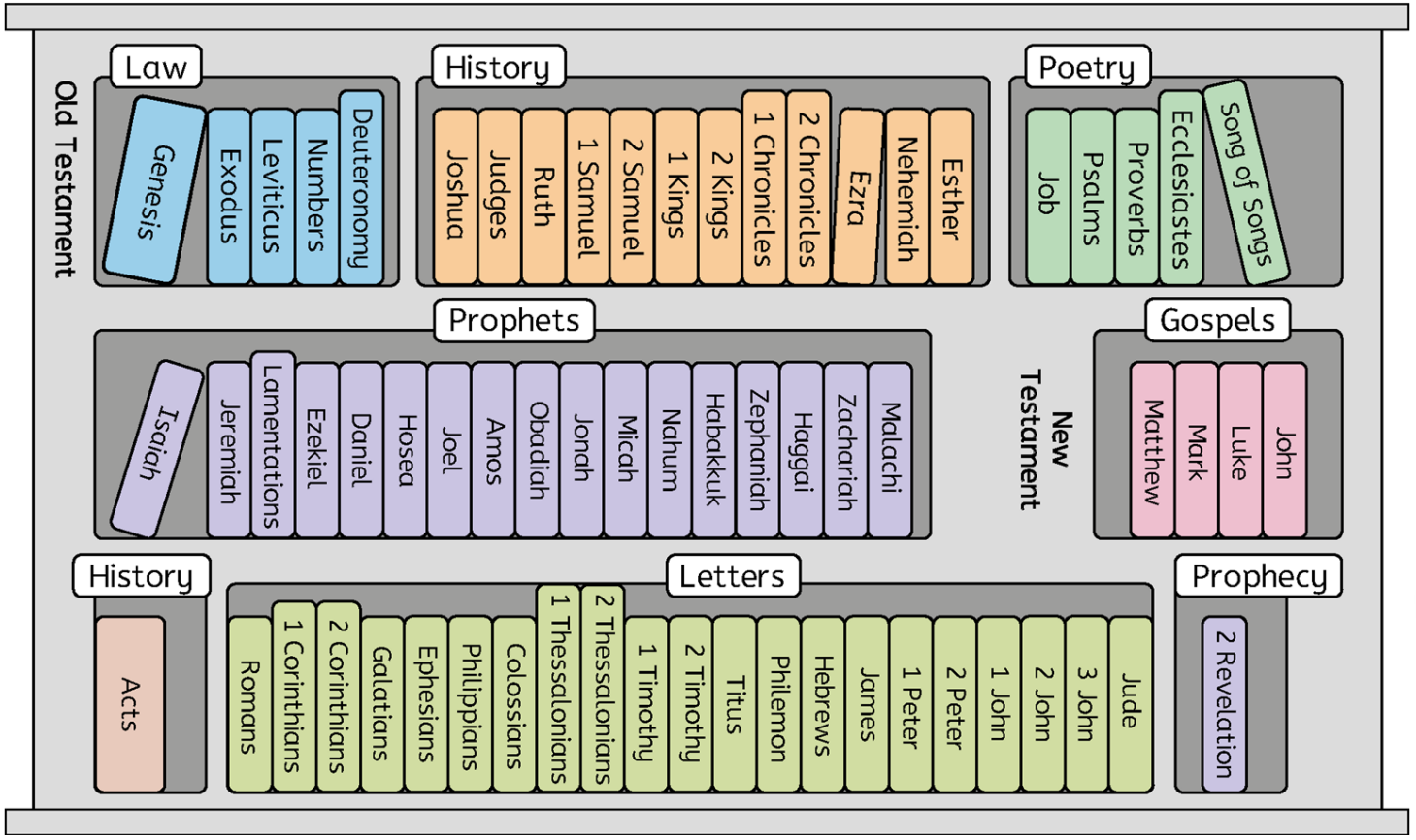
- The **Bible** was written by **many different authors**.
- Many Christians believe that the writers were **inspired** by God.
- Originally written in **Hebrew**, **Aramaic** and **Greek** (New Testament).
- About 400 years after Jesus, Church leaders agreed which writings should be included in the official Bible.
- Bibles have been **translated** into many different languages.
- Christians today think hard about what the words mean in their lives today.
- Very few Christians believe the Bible describes things exactly as they happened.
- Most Christians say some parts are stories to help people understand God.

The Old Testament	The New Testament
• This is the oldest part of the Bible. • Some parts are about 3000 years old. • Many of the writings are also special to Jewish people. • Includes: stories about how the world began (Genesis), God's relationship with people, histories, prophesies, songs and rules. • Contains prophesies about the coming of a **Messiah**, a saviour who would unite the Jewish people in peace.	• The second part of the Bible. • Tells about the life and teachings of **Jesus Christ**, and the early Christian Church. • Written about 100 years after Jesus' resurrection. • Many Christians see the **New Testament** as evidence that Jesus Christ was the **Messiah**, who gave up his life to save people.

Key vocabulary

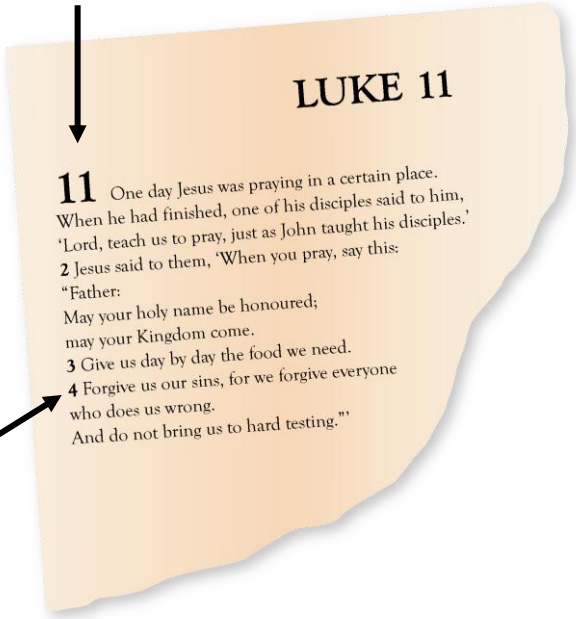
- **Messiah:** a saviour of the Jewish people prophesied in the Bible.
- **New Testament:** second part of the Bible telling the life of Jesus and the early Christian Church.
- **Old Testament**: first part of the Bible containing histories of the Jewish people and their relationship with God.
- **prophecy:** a prediction of what will happen in the future.
- **Prophet:** a person chosen by God to pass on God's messages to ordinary people.
- **reliable:** something that can be trusted.
- **scripture:** a word used to describe religious texts.
- **theology:** the study of God, religion and belief.
- **theologian:** a person who studies God, religion and belief

How do people think about the Bible?



The books of the Bible are organised into **chapters** and **verses**.

Large chapter number



LUKE 11

11 One day Jesus was praying in a certain place.
When he had finished, one of his disciples said to him,
'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.'
2 Jesus said to them, 'When you pray, say this:
"Father:
May your holy name be honoured;
may your Kingdom come.
3 Give us day by day the food we need.
4 Forgive us our sins, for we forgive everyone
who does us wrong.
And do not bring us to hard testing."'

Small verse numbers

The Bible is organised into **66 books**. It is like a library contained all in one big book. Some books are named after the person who wrote them, or the person they are about.