



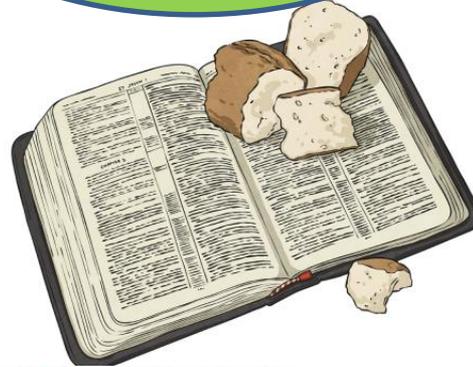
Christians read the Bible because it contains rules and advice from God. They may talk to other Christians about what it means to them. Some Christians study the Bible. This means that they read and think about it in detail, to gain a better understanding of God.

**Our big question:**  
What is the big story of the Old Testament?

**Powerful knowledge**  
The Old Testament contains stories and writings from before the birth of Jesus. It tells the story of a particular group of people, who are called the children of Israel and known as the people of God. The people of God try to live the way God wants, following his commands and worshipping Him. But they often get it wrong! They believe he promises to stay with them and the Bible stories show how God keeps his promises. The first five books of the Old Testament (the books of Moses) are also sacred texts to Jewish people.

**Key Vocabulary**

Revelation	The Christian belief that God reveals himself to people through words or actions.
prophecy	A message given by God, that is delivered to his people by a specially chosen person (a prophet).
Covenant	An agreement between two people – God makes a covenant with the children of Israel.
Promised land	The special place that God promised his people they could live. (Now known as Israel)
Judges	People who ruled before the people chose a king.
Judah and Israel	The two countries that made up the promised land.



What I already know:  
The Bible is a sacred text for Christians. It is divided into two parts, the Old and New Testaments and is made up of 66 books. The Old Testament tells the big story from before the time of Jesus, the New Testament after. The first book is called Genesis and tells the story of creation.

Why did God give people rules for living? Can you think of any important ones? Why do people find it so hard to be good?

Why are these stories so important? Why are they still told after so many years?







