



Connected to God's Story:

The Bible gives us an overarching story about God who loves us and wants to bring transformation in our lives.

2 Timothy 3:14-17 (The Message) *But don't let it faze you. Stick with what you learned and believed, sure of the integrity of your teachers—why, you took in the sacred Scriptures with your mother's milk! There's nothing like the written Word of God for showing you the way to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another—showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God's way. Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us.*

The Bible is a very big rock in faith formation. See the layers in the rock below. Just as many rocks are formed by sedimentary layering and great forces pressing down on them so this rock of faith formation is shaped by 5 key layers and of course with the powerful work of the Holy Spirit.



Layer 1. Meeting God

1. How do I view the Bible?
2. How am I communicating the value of the Bible to children?

Layer 2. Know the whole story

1. How can I communicate the Big Story of the Bible every time I use it?
2. How can I help children find their place in God's Big Story?

Layer 3. Context

1. What is the context and background and how can we help children understand it?
2. How can we help children apply this Bible passage to their own context here in NZ in 2022?

Layer 4. Community

1. When opening the Bible with children, how am I allowing space for each child to hear from the Holy Spirit and share their insights?
2. Are all voices being heard, considered and valued?

Layer 5. Depth

1. How do I respond to questions that I don't know the answer to?
2. How can I get better at explaining complex truths in ways that children can understand?

