

WORDS

ECHO

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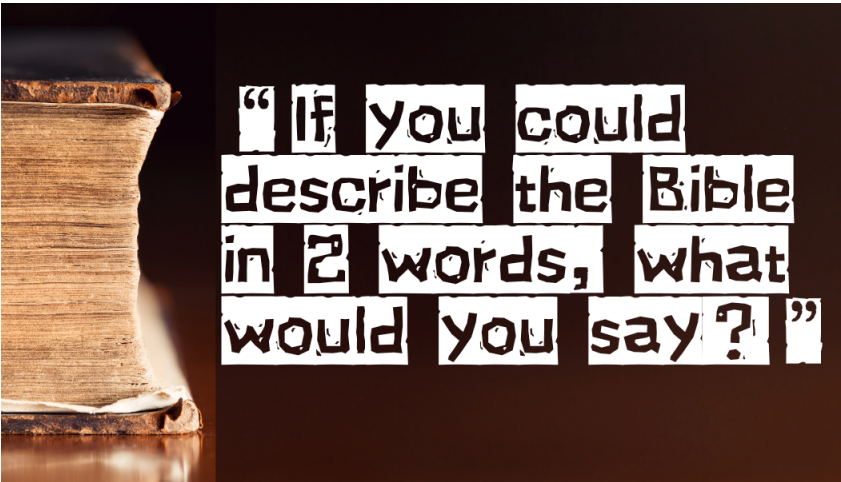


eBook
Series
#4

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Introduction

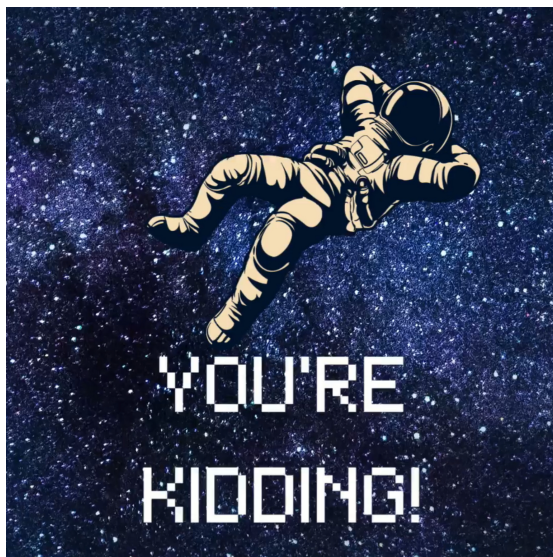
The Bible contains 791,328 words, 31,101 verses, and 1,189 chapters. Yet, you could sum up the way of life it teaches in two words: **Just Trust**. Those are my 2 words.



Since 2023 I've been asking people this question and have had a lot of diverse, thoughtful, sometimes-funny-sometimes-not, but always intriguing combinations of words about the Bible. In my reading I run across some other two-word descriptions and I add those to the collection as well. My sincere hope is that as you read this small ebook series you'll be inspired to pick up the Bible and read it for yourself. Like a good friend of mine said ... the Bible is a **Must Read!**

1

You're Kidding!

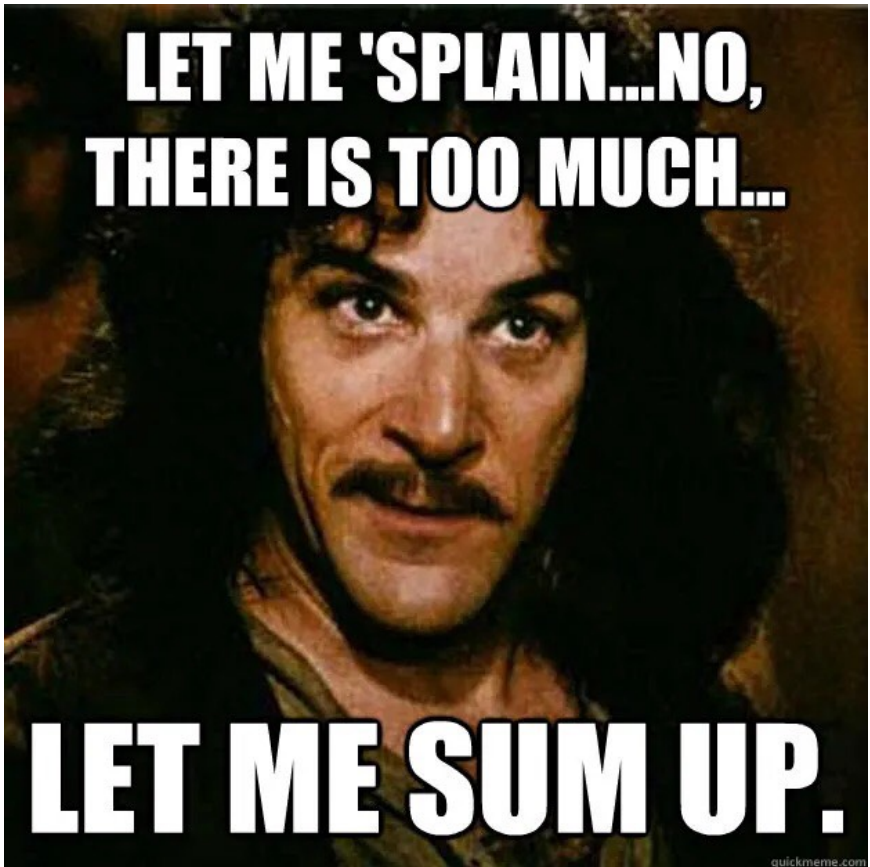


When it comes to KNOWING what kind of story we are all in, we really only have CLUES and a few HINTS.

For most of my adult life I have lived as if I had enough FACTS to KNOW the story I'm in.

At first I had to trust what others told me the Bible was about. I listened intently at Church and took notes. I went to Bible college and took more notes. There were many times that I would discover the meaning for myself as I learned how to study on my own. I started by studying through the entire New Testament verse by verse. It took me nine years!

One thing that consistently happened as I studied, and still does to this day, is the fact that the words I studied echoed.



Now, all words echo, don't they? It's not just GOD's word that we hear teaching and reminding us. But only GOD's word can bring us to a place in our lives where we're able to accept GOD's love ... unconditionally. Accepting the love of GOD is not transactional. It is not academic. It is a spiritual thing. It is more caught than taught. I like to think of it as **walking with GOD**. That's the closest description in the Bible to having a relationship with GOD ... since the word "relationship" is barely even in the Bible! Though, we often talk like it is a primary subject. In the first couple of centuries Christianity wasn't the only name that following

Jesus was called, it was also known as **The Way**. Isn't that fascinating?

For years after I had studied the Bible I would have to get on with other things, OF COURSE! I'd continue to let what I had studied be like background music to me. I would let it play over and over like a loop. Later, I would have a moment where I'd gain an understanding of what I had been studying. It was as if GOD would bring this moment about for me. I couldn't make this happen. I had to wait for it. But when it finally did happen I would hear the words echo in my soul and I'd receive a transformed life one word at a time! The words would come back to me rich and full of meaning.

Each time the whole experience made me want to know GOD more. What's more, this has created an insatiable hunger for GOD's word in my life. I've never been able to put The Book down! I don't want to! It is where GOD speaks to me.



GOD's word is the word that GOD uses in my life to convince me that GOD is love.

Jesus told the disciples how GOD teaches us and gives us reminders through the Holy Spirit.

*“But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will **teach** you all things and will **remind** you of everything I have said to you.”* John 14:26

Perhaps this is what Paul meant when he wrote to the church in Corinth ...

“This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words.”

1 Corinthians 2:13

GOD’s reminders come subtly as suggestions, hints, and clues. But they can also come to us like we’re being startled from sleep! Whether it happens slowly or in a moment, the result is the same.

We experience the peace of GOD.

*“**Peace** I leave with you; **my peace** I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”* John 14:27

Even though this is so amazing, it still only amounts to receiving some CLUES and a few HINTS when it comes to KNOWING what kind of story I’m in. I actually find great joy in the beautiful mystery of it all ... no kidding!

2

Three Words



One day I'll stand before GOD. Maybe. I say that because we cannot prove the existence of GOD. But I am satisfied mostly with what I've found out so far.

I believe that life asks us all a question ...

is GOD LOVE?

Practically everything in this world is set against us having a positive answer. Things really don't add up. All we've got are some CLUES and a few HINTS. It seems crazy to me that this world is the perfect setting for us to find out for ourselves that ...

GOD is LOVE.

What if ... in the beginning GOD inspired us with this question and that's it? Everything we've done with it since is what we've come up with as an answer on our own. It seems to me that GOD wants each of us to find out for ourselves.

If my answer is that GOD is love, does that tell me what kind of STORY I'm in? I suppose it depends on what CLUES and HINTS I've accepted. For me, the biggest CLUE is summed up in jus2words!



Jesus Christ is the best expression of the 3 words, **GOD is love**. How is that?

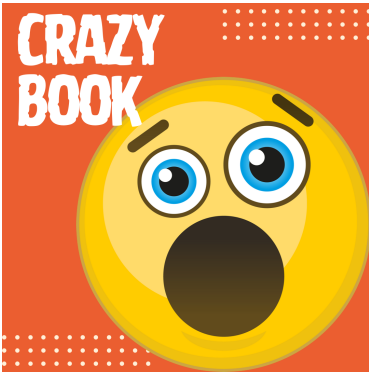
To me, **GOD being crucified** says I love you more than any other demonstration of any religion by any GOD ever. **It's such a HUGE CLUE that it's almost a dead giveaway!** Go ahead and name a demonstration of any GOD that made it into human history that SHOWS love more than that. In my first Ebook of this Jus2words! Series I listed 75 other deities. Read through the names listed and jot down on a piece of paper the ones that stand out to you. Then, write down why they stand out to you. Finally, look

at the reasons you wrote that made them stand out and ask yourself how it compares to GOD being crucified for you.

Perhaps the point of it all is for each of us the answer the 3 word question ...

is GOD LOVE?

I've spent my life seeking GOD and am satisfied with the little bit of knowledge I've ended up with. After having read many sacred books of the world's religions **my favorite** is the Bible. To me, it's the best story. In a good way I like to call it a **crazy book!** You cannot read it or any other sacred book literally cover to cover and feel like I do.



I am persuaded that **GOD is love** and that the greatest demonstration of that love is Jesus Christ crucified. That is enough for me. That is why I've decided to follow Jesus and to **just trust** in the love of GOD.

“For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 8:38-39

Let these **words echo** in your soul.