



## A Guide for Reading

- Locating the Discussion Questions for each chapter
  - These begin on page 473.
- Citations of Biblical text
  - Page 495. You may like to refer to a copy of the Bible in order to supplement your reading. The chapters of the Bible listed here make up the narrative you will read in the corresponding chapter of The Story. The Harper Collins or Oxford Annotated Study Bibles are excellent Bibles to have on hand.
- Skipped Text
  - Whenever you see spaces between paragraphs in the narrative, that is an indication that some original contents of the Bible have been skipped. The authors create logical transitions to bridge the gaps. Refer to the citations in the back to investigate these passages.
- Italic Paragraphs
  - Within the narrative of each chapter there are italicized paragraphs. These represent the unique theological commentary and interpretation of the authors and are NOT Biblical text.
- NIV version
  - The Story bases their narrative on the New International Version of the Bible. This is a modern translation from 1978 created by an international committee of scholars attempting to faithfully translate from the original Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic texts. It has its own characteristics that differ in very small ways from the NRSV (New Revised Standard Version) the Episcopal Church uses on Sundays.
- Timelines
  - Each chapter begins with an approximate timeline. It is important to remember, especially in many of the early Old Testament stories that we cannot know for sure many of the dates and they are scholars best guesses. A full timeline, organized by chapter, is located at the front of the book on page xi.