

## INTRO

- What is one of your favourite stories or movies and why?

The Bible reveals God's plan and purpose for our world, inviting us to find our story within His. We are challenged to embrace this narrative and fulfill God's purpose in our daily lives.

## READ

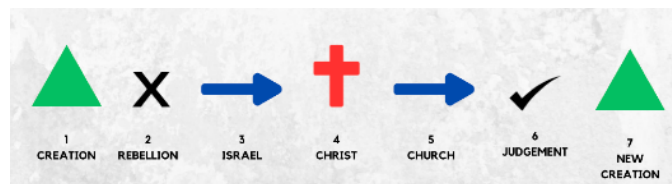
Luke 24:44-49

## REFLECT & RESPOND

Jesus helped his followers understand his mission by connecting it to the bigger story of Scripture, and to see how all of Scripture fits together around God's purpose in and for the world.

*The Bible clearly reveals the God who drives the whole story of the universe forward with a sense of divine purpose and ultimate destiny, who also calls into existence a people who share in that divine mission, a people with an identity and role within the plan of God. — Christopher Wright*

And here is the Biblical Drama in 7 Acts:



All of our lives are being shaped by some story. The story our culture tells is very pervasive and persuasive. For example, think about its ideas around your identity, freedom, happiness, and what it means to live a good life.

Scripture tells the story of reality. The question isn't, how is the Bible relevant to my life but rather how is my life relevant to the Biblical Story?

The danger of reading and understanding the Bible in fragmented bits—moral, devotional, theological, narrative bits—is that it can become too easily distorted and interpreted by other competing Stories we or our culture have (e.g. prosperity gospel, Christian Nationalism).

The Biblical Story **reveals** God and his purpose and **invites** us to participate in it and be **shaped** by it.

Reflective Questions:

- *Do you think it's important to know the overall Biblical Story? Why or why not?*
- *In what way/s does the Biblical Story help you understand more fully your purpose on earth?*
- *How do we make our lives relevant to the Bible?*
- *What part of the Biblical Story resonates most with you and why?*
- *How might this Grand Story affect the way you understand what Jesus meant by being salt + light?*

## RESPOND & PRAY

- Pray for your own heart to be changed and challenged through this series.
- That we would have more of God's heart for His mission in His world.
- Pray Lk 24:45 over each other that our minds would be opened so we can understand the Scriptures.