

# The *Bible in a Year* Phenomenon: Religious Podcast Sees Half Million Daily Downloads

Listeners have loved The Bible in a Year:

- 4 Billion cumulative listening minutes by 12/31/21
- **170 Million** cumulative downloads by the end of 2021
- 1 Million downloads of Episode 1 of The Bible in a Year podcast



Average daily downloads is a reasonable proxy for audience size, meaning that the audience for *The Bible in a Year* podcast is nearly a half million daily listeners:

- Nearly half a million average downloads per day, 2021 (Exact figure 460,000, 11/2021)
- 90% of audience is in the United States

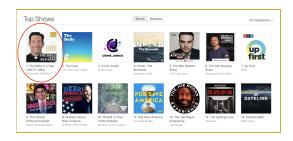
Podcast producer Ascension has seen remarkable community involvement in social media channels affiliated with the podcast, as well:

- 80,000 listeners have joined the <u>Facebook group</u>
- 5,000 10,000 views for the weekly LIVE "Ask Jeff Cavins" Q&A on Facebook
- **115,000** views of Episode 1 of *Bible in a Year* on YouTube

## #1 Podcast in All Categories (Apple Podcasts, January 2021)

The Bible in a Year podcast broke the glass ceiling for religious podcasts, topping the secular all-categories Apple Podcasting chart within 2 days of its January 2021 launch.

 #1 Podcast in America: Bible in a Year was the #1 podcast in America in all categories from Jan 2 - Jan 18, 2021, knocking out top shows from NPR, Dateline, Crime Junkie, and more. (Source: Apple Podcasts)





#### #1 Podcast in Religion & Spirituality (Apple Podcasts, 2021)

- **#1 Podcast in Religion & Spirituality for 2021:** The Bible in a Year was the #1 podcast on Apple's Religion & Spirituality chart for the majority of 2021, including six uncontested months in the #1 position from January to June.

### **Media Coverage and Awards**

- Outstanding News Coverage: Secular outlets picked up the story of a religious podcast topping the US Apple Charts with excited coverage in *The Times (UK)*, *DailyMail (UK)*, *CBN, Southern Living, Fox NY, National Review*, and *The Daily Wire* as well as pieces in nearly all national Catholic outlets.
- Award-Winning Production: The Bible in a Year won a 2021 w3 Gold Award (Podcast: General Series Health and Wellness) as well as the #1 Award in Religion and Spirituality from The Podcast Awards. Daily host Fr. Mike Schmitz was also voted one of the Top 5 Podcast Influencers of the year by the Podcast Awards, and Fr. Mike Schmitz and Jeff Cavins were together named "Catholics of the Year" by Our Sunday Visitor.

## For Biographical Information about Fr. Mike Schmitz and Jeff Cavins

- **Bio for Fr. Mike Schmitz:** Ascension Newsroom
- Bio for Jeff Cavins: <u>Ascension Newsroom</u>
- Listen to *The Bible in a Year* podcast: www.AscensionPress.com/BibleInAYear
- Ascension's New Podcast for 2022: La Biblia en un Año

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