

SCRIPTURE IN PRINT: NAVIGATING COPYRIGHT FOR AUTHORS



Checklist for authors on
what they need to know
when including scriptures
in their books

SCRIPTURE IN PRINT CHECKLIST

Creating a copyright list for Christian authors can bring peace of mind and protect their valuable work, ensuring their ideas and messages are respected and preserved for generations to come. By keeping track of their copyrighted materials, authors can focus on sharing their faith and inspiring others, knowing that their intellectual property is safeguarded and their creative efforts will continue to make a positive impact.

COPYRIGHT LIST FOR AUTHORS	DONE
<input type="checkbox"/> Research copyright laws.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Obtain permissions for quotes.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Understand copyright infringement.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Respect other authors' work.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Determine originality of work.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Avoid plagiarism accusations.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Learn about fair use.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Understand public domain rules.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Register your copyright.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Protect your intellectual property.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Include copyright notice on work.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Stay updated on copyright laws.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Consult with copyright lawyer.	

NOTES:

Remember, as Christian authors navigating the intricacies of copyright, you are not alone in your journey, with resources and communities available to support and guide you every step of the way.

IMPLEMENTATION AND COMPLIANCE

What existing copyright resources can I gather and study to gain a comprehensive understanding of copyright laws for Christian authors?

Research

How can I incorporate my unique Christian perspective and values into my written work while ensuring it remains original and protected under copyright laws?

Creation

What measures can I take to safeguard my copyright-protected Christian writing, such as registering my work, utilizing copyright notices, or seeking legal advice if necessary?

Protection

NAVIGATING COPYRIGHT FOR AUTHORS

It's essential to understand the importance of copyrighting your work. Copyright protection ensures that your words and ideas remain your own, guarding against unauthorized use or duplication. Let's dive into the key steps you need to take on your journey to copyright success!

Research Copyright Laws: Familiarize yourself with copyright laws applicable to the use of scriptures in your jurisdiction. Understand the duration of copyright protection and the rights of copyright holders.

Identify Copyrighted Translations: Determine which translations of scriptures you intend to use and ascertain their copyright status. Different translations may have different copyright holders and restrictions.

Review Copyright Restrictions: Examine the specific copyright restrictions associated with each translation you plan to use. Note any limitations on the amount of text that can be reproduced or any requirements for obtaining permission.

Seek Permission: Contact the copyright holders or their designated representatives to obtain permission for using the scriptures in your book. Be prepared to provide details about your project and how you intend to use the material.

Understand Fair Use: Understand the concept of fair use and how it applies to the use of copyrighted scriptures in your book. Consider whether your use qualifies as fair use under the applicable laws.

Consider Public Domain Translations: Explore public domain translations of scriptures that may be free from copyright restrictions. Verify the accuracy and reliability of these translations before use.

Keep Records: Maintain records of your correspondence with copyright holders, including any permissions granted or denied. This documentation can serve as evidence of your efforts to comply with copyright laws.

Provide Proper Attribution: Clearly attribute the scriptures to their respective translations and authors within your book. Include the translation name, version, and relevant verses to ensure proper recognition of the copyright holders.

Understanding of copyright laws related to including scriptures in their books and take appropriate steps to comply with those laws while respecting the rights of copyright holders.

RESOURCES TAILORED TO COPYRIGHT

These resources can help Christian authors understand your rights and responsibilities regarding copyright, protect your original work, and navigate copyright issues effectively in your writing and publishing endeavors.

Christian Copyright Solutions (CCS): CCS offers licensing solutions and resources tailored specifically for churches, ministries, and Christian authors. They provide information on copyright compliance, licensing options, and resources to help authors navigate copyright issues related to their work.

United States Copyright Office: The Copyright Office website provides comprehensive information on copyright law in the United States. Authors can access resources such as circulars, FAQs, and forms related to copyright registration, licensing, and enforcement.

Christian Writers Institute: This organization offers online courses and resources for Christian writers, including guidance on copyright issues specific to Christian literature. They may offer courses or webinars on topics such as copyright basics, fair use, and permissions for using copyrighted material in Christian writing.

Creative Commons: While not Christian-specific, Creative Commons licenses provide a way for authors to license their work for others to use under certain conditions. Christian authors may choose to use Creative Commons licenses to make their work more widely available while still retaining some control over how it is used.

Christian Writers Market Guide: This annually updated guide provides listings of publishers, literary agents, writing contests, and resources for Christian writers. It may include information on copyright-related resources and services specifically tailored to Christian authors.

Christian Authors Network (CAN): CAN is a community of Christian authors who support and promote each other's work. While not focused exclusively on copyright issues, CAN may offer resources, workshops, or events where authors can learn about copyright best practices and connect with legal experts specializing in intellectual property law.

Legal Advice: Christian authors may benefit from consulting with legal professionals who specialize in intellectual property law, particularly those with experience working with authors and publishers in the Christian market. These professionals can provide personalized advice and guidance on copyright issues specific to the author's work and circumstances.

PROTECT YOUR CREATIVE WORKS

Explore these suggestions with a variety of resources, Christian authors can enhance your understanding of copyright law, protect your creative works, and navigate the publishing landscape with confidence and integrity.

Permissions Databases: Utilize permissions databases or services that provide information on obtaining permissions to use copyrighted materials such as quotations, lyrics, or artwork in your book. Resources like the Copyright Clearance Center (CCC) can assist authors in obtaining necessary permissions and licensing agreements.

Copyright Clearance Services: Consider using copyright clearance services or agencies that specialize in obtaining permissions and licenses for copyrighted materials. These services can handle the process of securing permissions on behalf of the author, saving time and ensuring compliance with copyright law.

Educational Workshops and Conferences: Attend workshops, seminars, or conferences focused on copyright law and publishing practices. Many organizations, including Christian writers associations, literary festivals, and publishing industry events, offer sessions specifically addressing copyright issues relevant to authors.

Online Copyright Tools: Explore online tools and resources designed to help authors understand and manage copyright issues. Websites such as Copyrightlaws.com or Writer's Digest offer articles, guides, and tools that can help authors navigate copyright law and protect their intellectual property.

Peer Support Groups: Join peer support groups or critique circles where authors can share experiences, exchange advice, and discuss copyright concerns in a supportive environment. Online communities, writing groups, or local meetups can provide valuable insights and camaraderie among fellow Christian authors.

Author Advocacy Organizations: Consider joining author advocacy organizations or professional associations that advocate for authors' rights and interests. These organizations may offer resources, legal assistance, and advocacy efforts related to copyright law and intellectual property rights.

Continuing Education: Commit to ongoing learning and education about copyright law and best practices for authors. Stay informed about updates to copyright legislation, court rulings, and industry standards through books, articles, podcasts, and other educational resources.

Consultation with Experts: When facing complex copyright issues or legal questions, seek consultation with experts in intellectual property law or publishing law. Engaging with experienced attorneys or legal consultants can provide personalized guidance and ensure compliance with copyright regulations.

STUDY AND WRITING TOOLS

These resources can assist Christian authors in various aspects of your writing journey, from research and writing to publishing and promotion. Depending on individual needs and preferences, authors may find certain tools more suitable than others.

Bible Study Tools: Websites and apps like BibleGateway, Blue Letter Bible, and YouVersion provide access to various translations of the Bible, commentaries, dictionaries, and study guides to aid in research and understanding of biblical texts.

Writing Software: Tools like Microsoft Word, Scrivener, or Google Docs can help authors organize their writing, keep track of notes and research, and collaborate with editors or co-authors.

Online Writing Communities: Websites such as NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month) and Critique Circle offer opportunities for writers to connect with peers, receive feedback on their work, and participate in writing challenges and events.

Grammar and Style Guides: Resources like the Chicago Manual of Style, AP Stylebook, and Strunk and White's "The Elements of Style" can provide guidance on grammar, punctuation, and writing style.

Research Databases: Platforms like JSTOR, Google Scholar, and Academic Search Premier offer access to scholarly articles, journals, and academic research relevant to topics in theology, Christian history, and related fields.

Self-Publishing Platforms: Websites such as Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing (KDP), IngramSpark, and Lulu provide tools and services for authors to self-publish their books in both print and digital formats.

Graphic Design Tools: Software like Adobe Photoshop, Canva, or Affinity Designer can be used to create professional-looking book covers, promotional graphics, and marketing materials.

Podcasting Equipment and Hosting Platforms: For authors interested in creating podcasts to complement their written work, resources like microphones, audio editing software (e.g., Audacity, Adobe Audition), and podcast hosting platforms (e.g., Anchor, Libsyn) are essential.

Web Development Tools: Authors looking to build a website to showcase their work or engage with readers may benefit from tools like WordPress, Squarespace, or Wix for creating and managing their online presence.

Online Courses and Workshops: Platforms like Udemy, Coursera, and Skillshare offer courses on various writing-related topics, such as storytelling, character development, and publishing, which can help authors hone their craft and expand their skills.



ABOUT ME

Hey there I am Lana and originally from Harrison, Arkansas. After many years of working with children, while living in Port St. Joe, I went back to school and graduated from Kaplan University with my second BS degree in information technology and my MS degree in information technology.

I completed my PhD in information technology with a specialization in IT education in December 2020.

Today I live in a small coastal community, love living by the water and walking on the beach.

My days are centered on my faith, my business www.givingjesus.com and

writing my books.

My favorite pastime is coloring and creating craft projects. My favorite quote to live by is "Every strike brings me closer to the next home run" (Babe Ruth).

Lana Wynn Scroggins