

LEARNING FROM GOD'S WORD

I. THE DIFFERENT CATEGORIES OR KINDS OF LITERATURE - GENRE

- A. History – true stories about God's working in the past – Ruth, 1 Samuel, Acts, etc.
- B. Biographies – the personal story, the accounting of a person's life -
2 Chronicles 25:1-2, 26:1-5, 28:1-3; the Gospels
- C. Prophets – warnings to people about sin and judgment, and hope -
Isaiah, Daniel, Micah, Revelation, etc.
- D. Poetry – Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and Song of Songs
- E. Epistles – letters written to instruct, teach and correct churches, where there
is both truth and application. Galatians, Ephesians, Colossians, etc.
- F. Parables – fictional stories communicating a lesson God wants you to learn

II. DIFFERENT KINDS OF TRUTH OR INSTRUCTION

- A. Doctrines or principles you need to know and believe. God is a Spirit,
man is a sinner. Christ is a Savior, salvation by grace alone, etc.
- B. Commands God wants you to obey – Mark 12:30-31, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18
- C. Promises speaking of God's future blessing and working – Psalm 32:8, Prov. 3:1-12
- D. Examples of people's lives – Abraham, Deborah, Jeremiah, John, etc.

III. BE PRAYING AND ASKING GOD TO TEACH YOU

This is God's Word, it's a spiritual book; and you can only understand what God wants you to learn as God teaches you. Psalm 119:12, 18-19, 27, 33-34, 68; John 14:16, 25-26

IV. READ THE WORD

First, think about it, and meditate on it, and then digest it. Second, ask yourself these questions: What is the meaning of this passage? What does it mean to me?

V. BE OBSERVANT WHEN YOU READ

Ask yourself the questions: Who is it talking about? Why is this written?
Where did it take place? When did this take place? What is taking place?
How did things happen or transpire? 2 Chronicles 20:1-4

VI. BE LOOKING AT THE VERBS

They communicate action and also the timing of events.
2 Chronicles 20:1-4; Psalm 23:1, 6; Ephesians 1:4-5

VII. IDENTIFY AND DEFINE THE NOUNS

Ephesians 1:4-7, Ephesians 4:4-7

VIII. NOTICE THE ADJECTIVES, ADVERBS, PREPOSITIONS AND PARTICIPLES

Luke 4:1-2

IX. UNDERSTAND THE FIGURES OF SPEECH

Hosea, Revelation

X. BELIEVE GOD'S WORD

The Word of God will only be profitable as you believe it.

John 3:16, Luke 24:25, John 11:40, 1 Thessalonians 2:13

XI. BE WILLING TO DO WHAT GOD WANTS YOU TO DO

James 1:21-26; Isaiah 6:8; John 14:21, 23

XII. LEARN FROM OTHERS

Be learning from others, and from gifted teachers.

Ephesians 4:11; Nehemiah 8:1-3, 7-9

XIII. THE ORIGINAL LANGUAGES ARE VERY HELPFUL

Hebrew and Greek. A Greek dictionary and interlinear

XIV. SHARE WITH OTHERS WHAT YOU ARE LEARNING

Ezra 7:10, 1 Corinthians 14:26

THIS BOOK OF THE LAW SHALL NOT DEPART FROM YOUR MOUTH,
BUT YOU SHALL MEDITATE ON IT DAY AND NIGHT,
SO THAT YOU MAY BE CAREFUL TO DO ACCORDING TO ALL THAT IS IN IT;
FOR THEN YOU WILL MAKE YOUR WAY PROSPEROUS,
AND THEN YOU WILL HAVE SUCCESS.

Joshua 1:8