

## Reading Well: Read Discerningly

*Mark 4:30-34 • March 3, 2024*

In the gospels, people constantly misunderstand Jesus (John 3:3-4; Matt 16:5-11; Luke 22:35-38; Matt 27:46-47), partly because he spoke in parables. This shows that G\_\_\_\_\_ matters.

### Wisdom Literature

- 1) G\_\_\_\_\_ Truths
- 2) Tied to Larger Themes
- 3) Ask “What Values Matter To God?”
- 4) Ask “What Kind of People Ought We To Be?”

### Historical Narratives

- 1) History is Framed: Appreciate The Power of S\_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Look For Cultural Markers
- 3) Avoid 2-dimensional “Hero” worship
- 4) Look for God

### Gospels

- 1) Biographies +
- 2) Each Author Is A Theologian...Preaching A S\_\_\_\_\_
- 3) There Is No 5<sup>th</sup> Gospel: Caution Combining Gospels
- 4) Jesus Mediated: We Have The Church’s Account of Jesus

### Acts

- 1) Highlights, Not Daily Norms
- 2) D\_\_\_\_\_ First
- 3) Prescriptive Principles Second

- 4) Prescriptive Practices Third (Combined with Theological Principles and Historical Practices)

### **Epistles**

- 1) Each Letter Is Occasional: On-Ground Issues
- 2) Each Letter Is Missional: Applying Principles
- 3) Major First In Principles, Then Look For Consistent Practices
- 4) “How To T\_\_\_\_\_” Just As Much As “What To Do”

### **Prophets & Revelation**

- 1) F\_\_\_\_\_ : What Is The Message To The Primary Audience?
- 2) Appreciate The Role of Apocalyptic & The Day of the Lord
- 3) Notice How “Covenant” & “Ethics” Are Related
- 4) Recognize “Secondary Application” Is Always Possible, But Only Guaranteed After-The-Fact.

### **Common Mistakes**

- 1) Reading The OT As Principles & The New Testament As Directives
- 2) Verse Chains: Mixing Genres To Push A Narrative
- 3) P\_\_\_\_\_ T\_\_\_\_\_ : Making 1:1 Application of Practices Without Further Insight

### **Takeaways**

- 1) Ask For the Genre, Soak Up The Story
- 2) Look First For G\_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Look Second For P\_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Look Third For Consistent P\_\_\_\_\_ Rooted In Principles

*Answers:  
Genre; General; Story; Sermon; Descriptive; Think; Forttelling; Proof  
Texting; God; Principles; Practices*