HOW TO READ ______ THE BIBLE

UNDERSTANDING GENRE

LESSON 5

INTERPRETING EXAGGERATED AND HYPERBOLIC LITERATURE



- Found in a variety of literature.
 Common in poetry, proverbs,
 and the gospels
- Memorable
- Adds Emphasis



- 1. Too Literal
- 2. Rationalizing Disobedience



- A. Statement is literally impossible
- B. Statement conflicts with what Jesus says elsewhere
- C. Statement conflicts with the actions of Jesus elsewhere



- D. Statement conflicts with the broader teaching of Scripture
- E. Statement is not always literally fulfilled in practice
- F. Statement's literal fulfillment would not achieve the desired goal



- G. Statement uses a particular literary form prone to exaggeration
- H. Statement uses all-inclusive or universal language

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- 40 Questions About Interpreting the Bible by Robert L. Plummer
- ESV Study Bible



Where to Start

Read the sermon on the mount in Matthew 5-7.

Identify the exaggerated language Jesus uses and begin to interpret his meaning. What is Jesus saying? Why is he using exaggerated language?

How does it make the teaching more memorable and emphatic?



- <u>Christ-Centered Exposition:</u>
 <u>Exalting Jesus in Matthew by</u>
 <u>David Platt</u>
- <u>The Sermon on the Mount by</u> James Montgomery Boice

