



HOW TO READ THE BIBLE

UNDERSTANDING GENRE

The graphic features three horizontal brush strokes of varying shades of blue and cyan, layered on a light gray background. A white rectangular border is centered over the strokes, framing the text. The text is in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

LESSON 8

INTERPRETING PARABLES



THE NATURE OF PARABLES

- Most teach us about the Kingdom
 - The graciousness of God
 - The demands of discipleship
 - The dangers of disobedience

A large, vibrant green brushstroke graphic that sweeps across the top and left side of the slide, framing the title box.

Guidelines for Interpreting Parables

- A. Find the main point
- B. Recognize stock imagery
- C. Note striking or unexpected details
- D. Don't press EVERY detail for meaning
- E. Pay attention to literary and historical context

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

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



Where to Start

Read Luke 15, keeping a close watch for editorial comments and narrative flow. Why is Jesus telling these parables? Who are the main characters? What does the dialogue tell us? How would you summarize the main point of the text?

A stack of books with a smartphone on top, framed by a white border. The books have various covers, including a dark blue one at the top and a light-colored one at the bottom. The smartphone is a dark-colored model with a visible home button.

Resources to Get You Started

- *Reading the Gospels Wisely* by Jonathan Pennington



QUESTIONS!

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