

How to Read the Bible

Wisdom Literature

“Though you have made me see troubles, many and bitter, you will restore my life again;
from the depths of the earth you will again bring me up.” *Psalm 71:20*

Goals:

Practice reading wisdom literature.

Learn how to apply the principles you discover into your life...

Day One: Read Psalm 27

Look up this Psalm in the ‘Seven Types of Psalms’ section. What category does it belong to?

Does this surprise you?

What are some of the things that the psalmist says that express his fervent confidence in the Lord?

How does the way you handle adversity compare with the trust in God that the psalmist has?

“Instruct a wise man and he will be wiser still;
teach a righteous man and he will add to his learning.”
Proverbs 9:9

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Application 2

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Day Two: Read Psalm 27 again

In verse 1, what type of parallelism do you see between the two sets of lines there?

In verse 1, how do the rhetorical questions contribute to the author's confidence in the Lord?

In verses 2 and 3, the author uses what figure of speech to describe the opposition that he is up against? Do you ever feel this way?

In verse 4, what does the psalmist desire?
Does this have anything to do with dealing with fear?

Day Three: Read Psalm 27 yet again

What are some things that you learned about God and His character in this Psalm?

How does this Psalm change the way you view God?

What needs to change about the way you relate to God?

How are you going to do this?

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Day Four: Read Proverbs 16:24

What is the metaphor being used here about 'pleasant words'?

What type of parallelism is being used between these two lines?

Try to keep in mind today about the types of words you speak and how they affect those listening (remember, God is listening, too).

Day Five: Read Proverbs 17:16

How does the formal parallelism in the second line explain the first line?

Day Six: Read Proverbs 6:20-29

Notice how very specific this is... All of Proverbs is like this.

Note: while this is an adulteress, it is also applicable for an adulterer.