

A suggestion on how to meditate on what you have read

1	Look up whatever the suggested scripture may be.
2	Read it slowly.
3	Pray, asking God to speak to you through what you have just read.
4	Read it again several times.
5	Spend time thinking about what the verse says.
6	Perhaps dwell on a phrase or section of the verse or even one word.
7	Allow yourself to follow a train of thought until you see something in the verse that you have not considered before.
8	Write down what you get.
9	If your mind begins to wander totally off the subject then start again.

avenue
BAPTIST CHURCH

Jim Kilpin's little biblical guide

“for when you want to think or be challenged about living”



Suggestions for finding themes in the bible

During the last service in the hall you might recall I used colours to represent the groupings of books, only because I've always done it that way and have the books highlighted in my contents list, (with a key to remind me what they stand for) !

** Word of warning if you decide to use highlight pens to colour your Bible's contents list: Make sure you don't use felt tips (pencil is probably best) as bible pages are very thin, and you just end up with a rainbow mess, especially if your contents list is back to back on two pages ***

The thing to remember is that there's a link between the literature genre, and the overall theme for that group i.e. the Epistles for example help us/challenge us to think about what it means to live purposefully, (with purpose).

So I've listed both the genres and the theme's so that you will be able to spot them (hopefully) ...

You may be able to think of other themes too of course, (!), which itself would be a good exercise for anyone to do !

Sometimes I will come to the bible with a particular theme that I'd like to be challenged on or encouraged to think about for a while ... This list basically helps you to start that process, but of course, once you get started reading somewhere, there are usually other things which lead you to completely different genres ... which is great !

Essentially this offers a starting point, to get you going . You might remember I used the analogy of 'finding the right gear for the road' , knowing what

road you're on at a particular time helps you to think which gear to start with, (which theme/book to turn to) But then there's no reason why you can't move up or down gears (themes/genres) once you're moving !

May God Bless you in your reading,

Your minister and friend, Jim

GEN, EX, JOSH, JUDGES, RUTH, 1,2 SAM, 1,2 KINGS, 1,2 CHRON, EZRA, NEH, ESTHER

Narrative literature. - for when you want to think/be challenged about living **FAITHFULLY**.

LEVITICUS, NUMBERS, DEUTERONOMY

OT Law - for when you want to think/be challenged about living **DISTINCTIVELY**.

PSALMS

THE PSALMS - for when you want to think or be challenged about living **POETICALLY ! (I.E. HONESTLY)**.

JOB, PROVERBS ECCLESIASTES

Wisdom literature - for when you want to think/be challenged about living **DISCERNINGLY**.

ISIAIH, JER, LAM, EZRA DANIEL HOSEA, JOEL, AMOS, OBADIAH, JONAH, MICAH, NAHUM, HAB, ZEPH, HAGGI ZECH, MALACHI

The Prophets - for when you want to think/be challenged about living **PROPHETICALLY**.

MATTHEW ,MARK ,LUKE ,JOHN

The Gospels - for when you want to think or be challenged about living **INFECTIOUSLY**.

THE REST OF THE NEW TESTAMENT (OTHER THAN...)

The Epistles for when you want to think about living **PURPOSEFULLY**.

REVELATION

Apocalyptic literature - for when you want to think or be challenged about living **HOPEFULLY**.