

TYPE OF INSTRUCTION	EXPLANATION
Rules	“Rules summon obedience to specific commands. They require definite actions in narrowly defined cases.”
Ideals	“Ideals or principles guide a wide range of behavior without specifying particular deeds” (e.g. Lev 11:44; Matt 22:39).
Doctrines	“Doctrines state the cardinal truths of the faith, the fundamentals of a Christian belief system. ... [They] possess great explanatory power.” This includes promises as well, since promises are “God’s personal commitment to make things happen for those in relationship with him,” thus revealing his nature.
Redemptive Acts in Narratives	“When [studying] narrative..., we should focus first on the redeeming work of God and the divine self-revelation embedded in it.”
Exemplary Acts in Narratives	“Biblical narratives generally show moral lessons rather than spelling them out. ... Faithful acts in narrative can guide the life of faith,” while unfaithful acts warn us against sin.
Biblical Images	These can be symbols like baptism, symbolic acts (Hos 1–3), or metaphors (Prov 26:13–15). Instead of only <i>telling</i> , they <i>show</i> “the beautiful or ugly life.”
Songs and Prayers	These occur not only in the psalms, but in most genres of Scripture. They “touch the emotions or the spirit.”

Quotations are from Dan Doriani, *Putting the Truth to Work: The Theory and Practice of Biblical Application*, Kindle ed., 82–92.