

PARENT GUIDE



Big Idea

The Bible is a collection of writings, that are in numerous styles, mainly Narrative, Poetry and Discourse. How the biblical authors use these styles can greatly affect our understanding of the Story of God.

Focus Verse

"[...] all that night the Lord drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided" - Exod. 14:21

"By the blast of your nostrils
the waters piled up.

The surging waters stood up like a wall;
the deep waters congealed in the heart
of the sea." - Exod. 15:8

Resources

[Atlantic Cable Encyclopedia Article](#)

(Narrative)

[Atlantic cable poem](#) (first paragraph)

(Poetry)

[Editorial Discourse about Atlantic Cable](#)

(Discourse)

Week 3

This week we will be investigating different types of literature in the Bible, how to identify them and how they can be read in the correct context when we come across them.

We are looking at 3 main types this week and will be diving in deeper with narrative as we approach our next series in November. The 3 types are *Narrative*, *Poetry* and *Discourse*.

The example links to the left can be used to examine the differences between Narrative, Poetry and Discourse. All of the pieces of writing are talking about the first transatlantic telegraph cable to be laid. All show a different perspective on the same event.

The example used from the Bible we explored at Wednesday Night Live! was from Exodus and can be found to the left.

An addition thing you could do with your family is try and identify other places where these literary types meet in the Bible.

An example:

Samuel 12 and Psalm 51

Hope these resources help continue the conversation with your students this week.

-Jon

Final Word

"Reading and understanding the Bible involves lots and lots of interpretation. Not just in light of the world and culture around us, but in reference to other parts of the Bible." -John Piper