



Use the following thoughts and questions to have one spiritual conversation. You can pick and choose, use them all or just allow the statement to be your guide. The emphasis shouldn't be about having all the answers, but simply having a conversation.

1. Opening Statement

Begin your conversation by asking about this statement:

When reading the Old Testament, pay attention to the narratives, the law, and poetry and wisdom literature.

This statement is the biblical truth the student's study was built around. Each week there will be one statement that ties the whole study together. These would be great statements to remember together. The hope is that thoughts and ideas will stem from these statements. You can also begin by sharing a thought of your own that you learned during your study of the same lesson. Ask what thoughts were surprising as the study was taught.

2. Thought From the Study

It is important for us to learn to read these various types of literature well for at least two main reasons. First, misreading these parts of Scripture can be harmful to us. Second, these parts of Scripture become more meaningful to us personally as we understand them better. To hear God speak to us through any part of Scripture can be wonderfully rewarding, and hearing the literature of the Old Testament in line with how God inspired that literature to be read can help us grow in our Christian lives. This is God's Word to us, and we need to be able to read it well.

Consider a few examples of different kinds of writing in our culture: essays, news articles, opinion, fiction, children's books, biography. What are the purposes of these kinds of writing?

3. Quote for Discussion

Discuss this quote together. How does this change your understanding of a relationship with Jesus?

"Genre identification can make or break the proper interpretation of a biblical book or passage." —Mark Strauss

4. Conversation Questions

Use these questions to begin thinking through and applying the lessons to your family life:

1. What are some different movie genres you watch? (action, drama, comedy, etc.) Do you prefer one over another? Why or why not?
2. When we discuss a particular passage of the Bible as a family, do we usually take into consideration the genre of the book the passage is found in? How might this help when it comes to understanding the Scripture?
3. Which genre of Scripture would you like us to focus on studying together as a family? Why?