

## Handout for “Reading the book – Discourses”

Things to look for:

### **I. Connections Between Paragraphs and Episodes**

- a. Look for the same things between paragraphs that we looked for in sentences:
  - i. Relationships
    1. Conjunctions
    2. Repeated words, phrases or Themes
  - ii. Logical connections
    1. Cause and effect
    2. General to specific
    3. Conditional clauses with consequential effect
    4. Illustrations of nearby teaching

### **II. Story Shifts, Major Breaks and Pivots**

- a. Shift from doctrinal to practical (or vice versa)
  - i. Shift from explanatory or descriptive verbs to Imperative verbs
- b. Pivot Episodes (In Narrative)
  - i. An episode that is unusually significant around which the narrative changes.

### **III. Interchange**

- a. A literary device that involves contrasting two stories at the same time, often shifting from one to the other.
- b. Purpose behind the interchange.
  - i. Sometimes to show good actions verse bad actions
  - ii. Sometimes to transfer from one main character to another

### **IV. Chiasm**

- a. There are certain literary tools that some of the Biblical authors used that were popular during that time period, but that we are not very familiar with today, one of those is called a Chiasm, this is where the first point of the section corresponds to the last, the second point corresponds to the second to last and so on.