

Backsliding

Week of January 18: 1 Samuel 27

Observation

1. Read Chapter 27-28:2. What do you notice as you read?

2. What questions do you have?

Observation: What does it say?

1. What do you notice about the text?
Things to look for:
 - repeating words and phrases
 - Answers to the questions: who, what, when, where and how?
 - contrasts and comparisons
 - similes and metaphors (images used in the text)
 - cause and effect relationships
 - details regarding: time, geography, place, people, action in the text
 - grammar
 - larger themes in the passage
 - key words and themes
2. What questions do you have?

Interpretation

1. What motivates David to go to the land of the Philistines? Do you think that David is justified in this reasoning? Why or why not?

2. What does this chapter show us about David and where his allegiance lay?

Interpretation

The goal here is to answer questions raised by the text and to get at the central message of the passage itself.

What did the text mean for the original audience?

How might you summarize the central point of the passage?

Application

1. What do you think causes us to respond to our circumstances out of fear instead of faith? What happens when we respond in this way?
2. What practices might we put in place in our lives to remind us of God's promises to us? What has helped you to hold on to God in the past?

Suggestion for Prayer

Ask group members to take a few minutes in silent prayer, giving tot God the things that they have been fearful about lately. Close with a prayer that God would be at work in these places, that he would give you peace, and that he would help you to trust him more.