

Listening to God

Week of January 25: 1 Samuel 28

Observation

1. Read Chapter 28. 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 motivated Saul to inquire to the Lord in verse 5-6? Why do you think that God did not answer him?

2. Why might Saul have turned to a medium even when he knew this was forbidden (see Leviticus 19:31, Deuteronomy 18:9-14)

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. How do you make decisions in your life? What role does your faith play in your decision-making process?
2. What place do you think asking God for guidance should have in decision-making? Do you think that motivation in asking is important? Why or why not?

Suggestion for Prayer

Share what stood out to you the most in the study this week. Pray for each other out of this.