

1& 2 SAMUEL STUDY SERIES

Warfare

Week of March 15: 2 Samuel 8

Observation

1. Read 2 Samuel 8. 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. Look back at verses 1-17 of Chapter 7. How are some of God's promises to David in Chapter 7 fulfilled in Chapter 8?

2. What do you think is the goal of David's victories in Chapter 8?

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. This chapter describes a high point of David's reign. We see in verse 14 that David's military victories are seen as evidence of God's action. For us today, what would we point to as being evidence of God's action in our lives? What is your understanding of the role of the Holy Spirit in this?
2. This chapter can also raise some troubling questions about warfare at this time. Anthony will be looking at this topic in Sunday's sermon. How do you understand warfare in the Old Testament? What questions do you have about this?

Suggestion for Prayer

Spend time thanking God for the ways that he has been at work in your life. Take some time to pray for each other as well.