

Week of November 9: 1 Samuel 21-22

# PAYING ATTENTION TO GOD



# Observation

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1. Read 1 Samuel 21-22. What do you notice as you read?

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2. What questions do you have?

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## 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

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1. Twice in this passage David deceives others. Do you think he is justified in this? Why or why not?

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2. Where do you see God's action in this text?

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### 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

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1. What do you think this passage might say to us about seeking God in difficult times?

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2. Psalm 34 was written by David about his escape from Abimelech. Read it out loud. Can you think of a time in your life when you responded in a similar way to seeing God's action?

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## Suggestions for Prayer

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Use Psalm 34 as a starting point for your prayer. Pray for some of the themes that you see here (i.e. verse 18 - pray for those who you know are brokenhearted and crushed in spirit, verse 6 - pray for God's rescue, etc.)