

Sermon Notes

The Precious Gift of God's Word

1 Samuel 28 (pew Bible pgs. 250-251)

The witch at En-dor. No, that is not the new Star Wars-themed holiday special out this season on Disney+. It really is a key character in the story we find today in our text of 1 Samuel 28. Just like a streaming series, though, this chapter begins with a cliff-hanger and an abrupt scene change set up by a recap featuring episodes old information relevant to the current chapter. But while we may be preoccupied with a medium and a conjured up spirit from the dead, we must be careful to not miss overarching spiritual implications. When it comes down to it, this strange chapter should serve as a reminder to us of the most gracious and precious gift that God has given to us through his Word. And we are reminded of this through the tragic final desperate actions of a king spiraling into darkness, cut off from the only true source of light and life.

God's Word unveils for us the reality of all things. (v. 3-5)

God's Word invites us to rest in the sovereign care of our good God. (v. 7-14)

God's Word reveals to us the truth about ourselves. (v. 15-20)

God's Word pierces the darkness of our sin with the light of God's redemption. (v. 21-25)

Life Group Preparation Guide

"Let the *Word* of Christ *dwell* in you(all) *richly*
teaching and *admonishing* one another in all *wisdom...*"

- *Colossians 3:16a*

Focus #1: GOD

1. What does this passage reveal about the character or nature of God?
2. What does this passage reveal about God's eternal plans and purposes?
3. What does this passage reveal about how God interacts with his creation?

Focus #2: ME

4. How does this passage reveal sin in my own mind, heart, or life?
5. In what ways does this passage help us to see how we need to be aligned with God's will?
6. What is one tangible and measurable way that the Spirit is leading me to respond to his Word?

Focus #3: OTHERS

7. What is one truth that I can share meaningfully with someone, and with whom?
8. How can I specifically encourage someone or everyone in my Life Group from this passage?

Three contributions (reflections, questions, observations, etc.) I plan to include in our next Life Group discussion:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Westwood Staff

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OCTOBER

6 Person @ Orange @ 7pm
10-11 Mom 2 Mom Drop Off (FLC)
13 Person vs. E. Alamance @ 7pm
13-15 Trail Life Campout @ Grandfather Mtn
20 Person @ W. Alamance @ 7pm
20 & 21 AHG Campout @ Godwin's
20 & 21 Trail Life @ NC Fall Junction
27 Person vs. Williams @ 7pm
SENIOR NIGHT
29 Fall Family Festival 5:30pm-7pm