

Spiritual Observations

Underlying every story are lessons that God has placed in each story. Use ?s to discover those lessons.

Circumstances:

Is there anything in the preceding context that could help me better understand this story's contents? Describe the situation. How *might* people feel as they experience these circumstances?

Conversation/Conduct:

In each scene in this Bible passage, observe what is said/done that gives information about the people in the passage...or about God?

Choices:

What choices are the characters making? Examine those choices. Do the decisions show attitudes such as pride, forgiveness, humility, hate, kindness, fear or respect? Can you think of other choices (good or bad) that could have been made?

Consequences:

Who was impacted by each choice and how? What were the ongoing results, either directly or indirectly?

Characters:

What characteristics of people do you observe in the story? What characteristics of God do you see, such as patience, mercy, anger, power, love or concern? Is the Lord encouraging, warning or teaching? How does God respond to people? How do people respond to God?

Summary: What do we learn from:

1. the Circumstances
2. Conversation -what people say
3. Conduct – what people do
3. the Choices people make
4. the Consequences of choices
5. the Characters, especially God

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Spiritual Applications

Review:

Review the spiritual lessons and principles you gained from the observations you have found. For each observation in that passage, think about how it might apply today: in your own life, in marriage, in the home, at school, at work, at church, in society, in the world, etc. Use questions to discover areas of application to life today.

Circumstances:

Ask yourself...Have I, or someone I know, been in a similar situation, or would this be a new experience for me?

Conversation/Conduct:

What am I saying or doing that is similar to (or different from) the people's reaction in this Scripture passage? Am I believing or doubting? Am I at peace or confused? Am I seeking God? What can I apply to my own life from the actions and words I saw in this story?

Choices:

What choices did I make when (if) this happened before? What choices am I making now? Are there better choices that could be made? Would those better choices take the form of words, thoughts, attitudes, or actions?

Consequences:

What were (or could be) the consequences of my choices? Who was (might be) affected by my choices?

Characters:

How do (or did) I see God working in my situation? What could I learn from this story about God and His character that would apply to my life today? What in this story could help in my situation?

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