

Faith, Fashion, Sexual Assault

FASHION, FAITH, AND SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION & RESPONSE

Bible Verses:

- The Story of Tamar:
 - 2 Samuel 13:1-21 (NRSV)
 - 2 Samuel 13: 23-38 (NRSV)
- The Levite's Concubine:
 - Judges 19:1-30 (NRSV)
- David and Bathsheba:
 - 2 Samuel 11:1-27 (NRSV)
 - 2 Samuel 12:1-31 (NRSV)

OBSERVATION

Important questions:

- Who?
- What?
- Where?
- When?
- How?

Important things to notice:

- Repetitions
- Similarities or comparisons
- Contrasts
- Cause and Effect
- General to Particular
- Particular to General

Observation Questions

1. What kind of literature is this? (There may be more than one kind of literature in a passage.)

- Narrative
- Dialogue
- Poetry
- Letter ("Epistle")
- Gospel
- Law
- Prophecy

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Observation Questions Continued

2. Mark units of thought in the text (change in location, time, theme, thought, action, characters, speaker).
3. How do fashion and clothing play a role in the story? (Example: Tamar wearing ashes and ripping her clothes)
4. Note the unexpected or unusual in the text.
5. Is there anything in the passage that raises a question for you? Anything that intrigues, perplexes, or troubles you?



INTERPRETATION

Interpretation Questions

1. Look back at the connections that you made as you observed. What are the main connections that run throughout the passage? What are the main threads?
2. Go back to some of the things that troubled or intrigued you and formulate a good question about them.
3. Look at the grammatical connections you found and formulate questions about them. Why does the author repeat this word? Why is this contrast here? What themes or meanings do these connections point to? What meaning is the author bringing out with each of the main connections?

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Interpretation Questions Continued

4. What did the author intend to communicate to the original readers?
5. What seems to be the main point or the core teaching of this passage?
6. Why is this passage here?
7. What context is helpful in interpreting these texts?
8. How does the passage approach sexual assault?
 - Is it helpful?
 - Is it problematic?
 - What do we do with this?
9. For those in the story that did not receive justice, what should that justice have looked like?

APPLICATION

Application Questions

1. How do you sense that God is speaking to you through this passage?
2. What part of your life is connected to the core teaching of this text?
3. How are you experiencing what a character in the story is living out?

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Application Questions Continued

4. Are you sensing any deeper insights into God or your experience with God?
5. Based on these verses, how do you see getting dressed and clothing as a form of lament and protest?
6. What ways have you seen faith communities use dress and clothing to oppress rather than uplift?
7. When you think about those oppressive practices, what theological perspectives have supported them? What would you say in response to those after today
8. What specific actions are you going to take in response to what God is saying to you?
9. What action will you take together with your community, in response to what God is saying to your community?

Adapted from InterVarsity [“How to Do Inductive Bible Study,”](#) which was Adapted from Bob Grahmann, based on the paper “How to Use Individual Study Time” by Lindsay Olesberg. October 2016

<https://collegiateministries.intervarsity.org/sites/collegiateministries/files/resource/file/How%20to%20Do%20Inductive%20Bible%20Study.pdf>

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