

# Sermon Notes

"Saul's Wretched End"

1 Samuel 28, 31

December 10, 2017

d. How about in the New Testament? What do the following passages teach regarding the occult and those who practice it?

Gal. 5:19-21

Acts 19:18-19

1 Timothy 4:1

1 John 4:1-3

Rev. 21:8

e. From what you have studied here, how would you counsel someone who desired to work through a medium to contact their loved ones who have died?

## Let's Pray:

For our missionaries:

*Rob Weise - Dir. of Student & Family Ministries and District Events, Forest Lakes District EFCA*

Pray for event planning and upcoming Districts Conference in January that many would come to know Christ.

# Growth Group Homework

For the week of 12-10-17

Questions adapted from 1&2 Samuel: Life Change Series, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 2012, pp. 80-88.

## Getting Started:

1. Fascination with the paranormal, desires to communicate with the dead, and curiosity with existence beyond the grave abound in our culture. List examples.

## Digging Deeper:

2. Read 1 Samuel 28.
  - a. What problems did Saul face at this time, as indicated in 28:1-6?
  - b. In 28:5-11, how did Saul respond to the military situation?
  - c. Why does Saul seek to contact Samuel (28:15)?
  - d. Some feel that this account justifies the practice of consulting the dead. But what is the tone of this passage toward Saul's deed (also consider the parallel passage in 1 Chronicles 10:13-14).

3. What does the Bible teach regarding Spiritualism, the idea that the spirits of the dead are able to communicate with living people through the aid of a medium? To answer, consider the following:

- a. What did God teach in the Mosaic Law regarding using a medium to seek information from the deceased?

Exodus 22:18  
Leviticus 19:31  
Leviticus 20:6  
Leviticus 20:27

- b. Why do you think God is so intensely opposed to this? Consider what Isaiah taught on this topic (Isaiah 8:19-22). Instead of mediums, who or what should God's people consult? What clue does this give you as to why God would respond so intensely?
- c. Given your observations from Isaiah, read Deuteronomy 18:9-14. Israel was cautioned against learning these practices from the nations around them, the very nations God intended to drive out of the land (18:13). To whom did those nations "listen" (18:14)? In contrast, to whom was Israel to "listen" (18:15-22)? Where does God want his people to get accurate information?