

For the week of November 15, 2015  
Pastor: Andy Burnham

# Anatomy of a Storm

*15th week in the series "A Life of Passion: The Story of David."*

**1 Samuel 28: 1-25**

In many ways, the life of Saul is an example of the foolish man Jesus talks about at the end of the Sermon on the Mount--the foolish man who built his house on sand and whose house consequently collapsed during a storm. 1 Samuel 28 might be called "The Anatomy of a Storm." It provides a detailed account of the downfall of a life built on the wrong foundation--a life built on the foundation of self-will and disobedience. Hopefully, too, the chapter will serve as a cautionary tale for us, demonstrating the truth of Jesus' words and encouraging us to follow a different example--an example like that of David, a man after God's own heart.

## **Discussion Questions:**

1. In Matthew 7:24-27, Jesus talks about two men, one wise and one foolish—one who built his house on the rock and one who built his house on the sand. As you think about the lives of Saul and David in relation to these verses, what comes to mind?
2. Jesus says that both the wise and the foolish will experience storms. Are there currently any storms going on in your own life (health problems, job problems, relational problems, emotional problems, national problems...)? If so, how are you doing in the midst of the storm?
3. When Saul decided to go to the medium at Endor, he put on a disguise. He decided to conceal who he really was. Have there been times in your own life or in the lives of those you know when you feel like a disguise has been involved—when you feel like there's some concealment or misrepresentation? Why do you think people do that?

4. In 1 Samuel 28, do you think that Samuel really appears to Saul or that the spirit is perhaps a demon masquerading as Samuel or just a hoax perpetrated by the medium? Why?

5. When you read 1 Samuel 28, what lesson or lessons do you think God wants us to learn? What is the application to our own lives?