

COMA questions for Old Testament narrative

Context

- What has happened so far in the narrative? Have there been any major events, characters or themes?

- What has happened just prior to the section you are reading?

Observation

- What do you learn about the main characters in this section? How does the author describe them? How do they describe themselves?

- Is time or place significant in the events that happen in the passage?

- Is there a conflict or high point in the passage?

- Do you think there is a main point or theme in this section of the story?

- What surprises are there?

Meaning

- Are there any 'editorial' comments from the author about the events in the narrative? How do these comments illuminate what is happening?

- Does someone in the narrative learn something or grow in some way? How? What does this person learn?

- How does the passage point forward to what God is going to do in the future? Does it prophesy or anticipate Jesus Christ in some way?

- How could you sum up the meaning of this passage in your own words?

Application

- How does this passage challenge your understanding about who God is and what he is like?

- Is there some attitude or behaviour you need to change?