

The Ark Is Lost

Lesson 10, 1 Samuel 4:12–22, NIV

Eli's Fall

Read 1 Samuel 4:12–18. Pretend you are a part of a news team. You have just witnessed Eli's reaction to the news of Israel's defeat, his sons' deaths, and the capture of the ark of the covenant. Create a headline, byline, and copy for the opening paragraph of an article covering the incident. Use the following questions to help:

1. Who was Eli, and what role did he play in Israel?
2. Why do you think he fell backward and died?
3. What does Eli's death signify in the context of Israel's leadership?
4. How well did Eli fulfill his responsibilities as a leader?



Responding to Loss

Consider grief from various angles. What does each passage indicate about expressing heartache? Write your observations in each box.

Abraham mourns Sarah <i>Genesis 23:1–2</i>	Jacob mourns Joseph <i>Genesis 37:33–35</i>	David mourns Absalom <i>2 Samuel 18:33</i>
David laments after his sin with Bathsheba <i>Psalms 51</i>	Jesus weeps over Jerusalem <i>Luke 19:41–44</i>	Mary and Martha weep over Lazarus's death <i>John 11:33–35</i>