



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 11: Observing

Suggested Week of Use: May 15, 2022

Core Passage: 2 Thess. 2:1-12

News Story Summary

In a recent interview, retired NFL Washington Commanders' quarterback Alex Smith said the off-field issues of the team impacted the football team's on-field success. When asked what advice he would give incoming quarterback Carson Wentz, Smith said, "You gotta try to eliminate the noise there. There's a lot of distractions. It makes it difficult to focus in on the football." Smith attributes the distractions to a history of organizational dysfunction.

For more about this story, search "Alex Smith and off field 'drama' in Washington."

Focus Attention

To supplement the Begin idea under Focus Attention, after the group discusses the chatter that distracts someone from playing the shell game, share the article about comments made by retired NFL quarterback Alex Smith. Invite volunteers to share their response and how off field distractions might impact on field performance. Complete the step as written, asking the second question (How does the shell game shatter compare to the chatter that causes a person to lose focus in their spiritual lives?).

Summarize and Challenge

To supplement the Reflect idea under Summarize and Challenge, remind the group of the article about NFL quarterback Alex Smith. Lead the group to list things the players may be able to do to stay focused. Ask: *How do the things we listed translate to how we can stay focused on our spiritual lives when distractions arise?* Complete the step as written.