

This week our study is about the experiences that David went through while on the run from King Saul.



# Torchlight

*"...as trial came upon him, his faith was shaken, and human weakness appeared. He saw in every man a spy and a betrayer... But as he had been hunted and persecuted, perplexity and distress had nearly hidden his heavenly Father from his sight. Yet this experience was serving to teach David wisdom; for it led him to realize his weakness and the necessity of constant dependence upon God."  
– Patriarchs & Prophets p. 657*

# David in Hiding

Daily Devotional 38



# SUNDAY

**LET'S PRAY** Dear Father, thank You for providing a roof over my head, clothes on my back, and food in my belly. Help me Lord to be content with what I have and not to be materialistic. Please fill me with the Holy Spirit so I can understand what I read today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - MICAH 6:8

“... And what does the LORD require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?”

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Samuel 19:1-24



## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

In our Bible reading today we found that Samuel died. It wasn't until Samuel's death that the Israelites realised their folly in wanting a King to rule them. It was Samuel who had taught them to love and obey God. Samuel was a great loss for Israel and they mourned his death greatly. Saul was now ruling with madness, strife, and confusion. Saul had become selfish and was only looking out for himself, not the well-being of the nation and their relationship to God. At this time David and his men made their way down to the Wilderness of Paran. Here in this area lived a wealthy landowner named Nabal, who had large flocks of sheep. David and his men befriended the shepherds and helped protect them and their sheep. As was the custom of the day, David sent some of his men to go and see Nabal and ask for some supplies. Nabal was not a nice man – he was mean and selfish and refused to supply David and his men with food. David was not happy. Abigail, Nabal's wife, who was kind and wise, on hearing what happened, quickly got some supplies together and sent them to David. Abigail followed later and apologized to David for her husband's behaviour. Abigail, in her peace making efforts, saved a catastrophe from occurring. Have a look at *Matthew 5:9*.



## SABBATH QUIZ

1. Who let David down through the window of his house?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What two things did David acquire from the Tabernacle at Nob?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What land did David take his parents to for safekeeping?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What was the name of the city that David saved?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What did David secretly cut from Saul when he was in the cave?  
\_\_\_\_\_



# SABBATH

**LET'S PRAY** Dear Father, thank You for the Sabbath day and the blessing it brings. Thank You for Your wonderful gift of eternal life through Jesus dying on the cross for me. Help me to shine for You today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - MICAH 6:8

“... And what does the LORD require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?”

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Samuel 25:1-19,  
23-25 & 32-34



## LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our reading today tells us that Saul let his servants and Jonathan know that he wanted David dead. Jonathan warned David of this and told him to hide until he could talk some sense into his father. Jonathan interceded for David and Saul promised not to kill him. A short time later jealousy brewed in Saul's heart again. Saul tried to pin David to the wall with his spear for the second time when David was playing his harp for him. God protected David and he managed to escape to his house. Saul sent his men to watch the house with orders to kill David when he left in the morning. David's wife Michal helped David to escape during the night by letting him down through the window. David escaped to Ramah, the home of



Samuel the prophet, to find relief from the persecution from Saul. Saul sent three groups of men to Ramah to arrest David, but three times the Holy Spirit fell upon these men and God prevented them from touching David. Saul, completely exasperated, decided to go himself. But the Holy Spirit came upon Saul as well. Saul lay off his outer kingly robes and lay before Samuel as meek as a lamb. It was such a strange site that many people came to look and the news of it spread far and wide.

David wrote a lot of the chapters in Psalms. Have a look at Psalm 59 as it was written about the incident of Saul sending his soldiers to watch David's home. Even though he was persecuted, David still praised God.

## FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - 1 SAMUEL 19:\_\_\_\_\_

“So Michal let David down through \_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_ .  
\_\_\_\_\_ .”

## WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?

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# MONDAY

**LET'S PRAY** Dear God, I praise and thank You for the many blessings You provide for me every day. Thank You for the air I breathe and the rain and the sunshine that sustains our earth. Help me to remember to praise You even when things are not going well. I love You Lord.  
In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - MICAH 6:8

“... And what does the LORD require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?”

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Samuel 20:1-4 &  
18-42



## LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our Bible reading today tells us that David and his six hundred men were at a place called En Gedi close to the Dead Sea. After Saul had finished fighting the Philistines, he and three thousand men went in search of David. David and his men were hiding in a large, deep cave. Saul went into the same cave not knowing that David and his men were there. David's men urged him to kill Saul, but David refused to kill someone God had anointed through Samuel. Instead David secretly cut off part of Saul's robe. After Saul left the cave David followed him out and spoke to him. Saul was completely humbled by this act and admitted that David was God's anointed and was to be the next King. Saul left with his men leaving David unharmed.



Our story of Saul and David so far shows us that Saul wanted to harm David. But David had only showed kindness to Saul despite the persecution he heaped on him. We can learn from all this that when people are unkind to us, we can 'turn the other cheek', 'heap coals upon their head' by returning kindness when people are being unkind to us. Check out these verses: *Proverbs 25:21-22*, *Matthew 5:44*, and *Romans 12:20*.

## FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - 1 SAMUEL 24:\_\_\_\_\_

“Then he said to David: ‘You are more righteous than I; for you have \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,’ \_\_\_\_\_.”

## WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?

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# FRIDAY

**LET'S PRAY** Dear Lord, thank You for keeping me safe this past week. Thank You for loving me so much. Help me to be kind to others even when they are unkind to me. Please help me to understand what I read in the Bible today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - MICAH 6:8

“... And what does the LORD require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?”

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Samuel 24:1-22



## LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

We read today that David sought out Jonathan after he left Samuel's house and complained to Jonathan about his father. He did not understand why Saul wanted to take his life when he had done no wrong against him. Jonathan thought his father would do no harm to David because of the miraculous event at Ramah. But David still didn't trust Saul and believed that death was just one step away. Jonathan listened to David's concerns and thought of a plan to test Saul's true feelings towards David. The sacred festival of the new moon, which was celebrated by the Israelites, was due and both Jonathan and David were expected to attend. David did not feel safe enough to go and planned not to be there. Our reading tells us that Saul was furious that David had chosen to visit his family instead, and upon hearing the news tried to kill Jonathan with his spear. Devastated, Jonathan left the palace knowing that it was no longer safe for David to be in the presence of Saul. After the pre-arranged sign of the arrows was completed, both men wept and were forced to go their separate ways.

Read verse 32 again and then read *Matthew 27:23* and *Luke 23:22*. Jesus died for us when he had done nothing wrong. It's something to think about.



## FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - 1 SAMUEL 20:\_\_\_\_\_

“But if I say thus to the young man, ‘Look, the arrows are beyond you’—go \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.”

## WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?

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# TUESDAY

**LET'S PRAY** Dear Lord, thank you for a new day in which I can share You with others. Help me to be faithful and have more trust in You. Thank You for my Bible. Please help me to understand what I read in it today.  
In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - MICAH 6:8

“... And what does the LORD require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?”

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Samuel 21:1-15



## LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our story continues today with David and his men saving the city of Keilah from the Philistines. When Saul found out where David was he planned to go after him. On hearing that news, David sought God to find out what to do next. God told him that the people of Keilah would hand him over to Saul even though David had saved them. So David and his now six hundred men fled Keilah and ran to the Wilderness of Ziph. Saul, upon hearing that David had escaped, halted his expedition. It was here that Jonathan came and visited David and greatly encouraged him. The Ziphites knew where David and his men were hiding and betrayed his whereabouts to Saul. Saul and his men came looking for David but God protected him. Saul had to make a hasty retreat as he was told that the Philistines had invaded the land.

It was during this trying time between Saul and David that David composed the 54th Psalm. Again, as before, David was praising God despite the difficulties he was experiencing. Just think for a moment about how long ago David lived and went through these experiences. He wrote the Psalms under the influence of the Holy Spirit not knowing that you, yes you, would now be reading them all these thousands of years later, and that they would give you strength to carry on despite the hard things that you may be going through. Our God is so good!



## FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - 1 SAMUEL 23:\_\_\_\_\_

“So David saw that Saul had come out to seek his life. And \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.”

## WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?

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# THURSDAY

**LET'S PRAY** Dearest Heavenly Father, thank You for Your powerful promises in the Bible that are there for me to draw strength from. Help me to be more thankful and grateful, and less selfish. Please place joy in my heart so people know that You are my Lord. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - MICAH 6:8

“... And what does the LORD require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?”

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Samuel 23:1-29



## LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our reading today tells us that David ran to a place called Nob. Nob was where the Tabernacle had been moved to from Shiloh, minus the Ark of the Covenant, which was residing west of Nob at Kiriath-Jearim. It was at the Tabernacle that David misled the priest. David told him that Saul had sent him, but he should have told him that he was actually running away from Saul. If David had been honest with priest Ahimelech, he would have told David what to do and perhaps a different course would have been pursued. The only bread that the priest had was the old Holy Bread, or the Show Bread, which he gave David. David also took Goliath's sword with him, which had been stored at the Tabernacle. While



all this was going on, Doeg, a servant of Saul, was at the tabernacle and saw the events unfold. David then ran to the enemy – King Achish of Gath. Here David thought he could find refuge from Saul. But the people of Gath reminded Achish that it was David who had killed Goliath. When David heard this he pretended to be mad and escaped.

David's faith was being tested during this time on the run. David had forgotten to trust in God's mighty power to protect him. We can learn from David's mistakes by trusting God no matter how much the world is against us.

## FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - 1 SAMUEL 21:\_\_\_\_\_

“Now therefore, what have you on hand? Give \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_,”

## WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?

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# WEDNESDAY

**LET'S PRAY** Dear Father, please forgive me for my sins. Help me to think before I act. I want to make good choices Lord, and I ask You to help me, please, by blessing me with wisdom. Help me to understand the words in the Bible today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - MICAH 6:8

“... And what does the LORD require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?”

## THERE'S POWER IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Samuel 22:1-23



## LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

From our reading today, the Bible tells us that David escaped to a cave in Adullam where David's family and four hundred other people came to seek refuge. It was here that David composed the 57th Psalm. David wanted to make sure his parents were safe so he took them to Moab and asked the King if his parents could stay in his country. Meanwhile, Saul was complaining to his servants that everyone was against him, including his son Jonathan. Doeg the Edomite heard this and, eager for his own advancement, reported to Saul that the priest had given David some provisions. On hearing that news, Saul went into a rage and demanded that the priests be killed.



Saul's servants refused to do this. It was only Doeg that offered to do this terrible act. Eighty-five priests and the inhabitants of Nob were killed by the hand of Doeg. Abiathar, one of priest Ahimelech's sons, avoided being killed and ran to find David. David, on hearing this news from Abiathar, composed the 52nd Psalm.

All of Israel was horrified that the King they had insisted on having was ruling with such madness. They were now beginning to see that David, because of the way he lived his life, was to be their next King.

## FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - 1 SAMUEL 22:\_\_\_\_\_

“ \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_ Abiathar, escaped and fled after David.”

## WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?

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