

"We live in the gray.  
Our human  
perspective is limited."

# WISDOM IN THE GRAY

Part 26 — 1 Samuel 27:1-28:2

Seeking God's Kingdom

"For now we see only  
a reflection as in a mirror,  
then we shall see face  
to face."  
1 CORINTHIANS 13:12

## 1 CONGREGATIONAL QUESTIONS



**Q1**

Why does God keep testing David's heart? Does He test us today like He tested David?

**Q2**

What does Jesus mean when He says the Holy Spirit will guide us into all truth?

## 2 THE TEST IS OUR RESPONSE

1 SAMUEL 27:1

"But David thought to himself,  
"One of these days I will be  
destroyed by the hand of Saul."  
— 1 SAMUEL 27:1



- David sees no way out.
- He decides to run.
- He flees to the Philistines.

### THE TEST:

Will we react out of fear? Or will we trust the LORD's wisdom when life gets hard?



Life is hard to navigate. We need the guide rope of God's wisdom.

## 3 A STABILITY THAT COSTS

1 SAMUEL 27:2-6



- David goes to Achish king of Gath.
- He receives a place to live in Ziklag.
- Saul stops searching for him.
- David gains stability—but at a cost.

### BUT THE COST:



He hides who he is.  
He lives among his enemies.  
He gives up a measure of spiritual alignment.

## 4 LIVING IN THE GRAY: A SEASON OF UNCERTAINTY

1 SAMUEL 27:7-12

David lives in Ziklag for a year and four months.



- He raids the Geshurites, Girzites, and Amalekites.
- Achish is pleased and trusts David completely.
- David is still not at peace. He's unsure of how to move forward.

### REALITY CHECK:

On this side of eternity, we don't see the full picture. Life isn't always in 4K.



## 5 A NEW TEST: ACHISH'S DEMAND

1 SAMUEL 28:1-2

Achish said to David:  
"You and your men will accompany me in the army."



- Achish wants David to fight against Israel.
- David must choose: loyalty to a king or loyalty to God.
- The next step is unclear.



The Spirit gives wisdom. He points us to Jesus. He reveals truth. He shows us God's perspective.

## 6 WISDOM FOR THE WAY

JAMES 1:2-5



WISDOM ALWAYS ASKS:  
"How should I live?"

- Ask God for wisdom.
- He gives generously.
- He does not find fault.
- Trials build perseverance.
- Perseverance produces mature wisdom.

### APPLICATION:

There is no shame in asking for the LORD's help.



## LANGUAGE INSIGHT

JOHN 16:13

"Guide you into all truth"

Literal idea: "Guide you into the truth entirely."

Application:

The Spirit points us to Jesus and His wisdom.



## THE JOURNEY OF FAITH



**TRIAL**  
Life gets hard.



**PERSEVERANCE**  
Keep trusting when it's hard.



**WISDOM**  
Ask God for wisdom. Follow His guidance.



**FAITHFULNESS**  
Walk in His way, not our own.

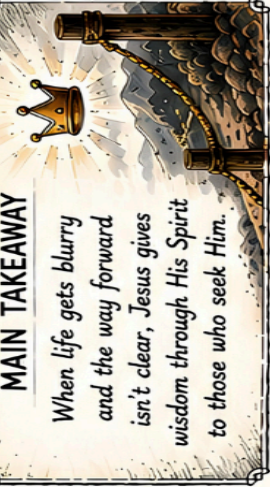
## REFLECTION QUESTION

With whose wisdom are we painting the picture?



## MAIN TAKEAWAY

When life gets blurry and the way forward isn't clear, Jesus gives wisdom through His Spirit to those who seek Him.



**Seeking God's Kingdom — Going Deeper**  
**Part 26 — "Wisdom in the Gray" — 5.31.26**  
**Main Scripture: 1 Samuel 27**

→ **Living in the Gray — 1 Corinthians 13:12**

- Paul reminds us that in this life we only see a partial picture.
- Mirrors in the ancient world gave a blurry reflection, not a clear image.
- **We live in the gray. Our human perspective is limited.**
- David's story raises an important question: Does God create every test we face?

→ **David's Faith Under Pressure — 1 Samuel 27; James 1:2–3**

- God tested Abraham (Genesis 22), but 1 Samuel never says God tested David.
- David lived in a broken world where he had to choose whether to trust God.
- Trials reveal how we respond when the way forward is unclear.
- James 1:2–3 teaches that the testing of faith produces perseverance.
- **THE TEST: Will we trust the LORD when our perseverance wears thin?**

→ **When Perseverance Wears Thin — 1 Samuel 27**

- Exhaustion and fear begin shaping David's perspective.
- The text never says whether David prayed about leaving Israel.
- David makes a strategic decision to seek safety among the Philistines in Gath.

→ **When the Solution Creates a New Problem — 1 Samuel 27:12–28:2**

- (27:12) Achish trusts David and believes he has turned against Israel.
- (28:1) The Philistines prepare to fight Israel, creating a new crisis.
- The story intentionally leaves us with unanswered questions and uncertainty.

→ **The Spirit Leads Us to Wisdom — John 16:13–14; James 1:5**

- Jesus promises that the Spirit of Truth will guide believers into truth.
- (John 16:13) "all truth" = "He will guide you into the truth, entirely"
  - The emphasis is on the trustworthiness of what the Spirit reveals
- Wisdom asks: "How should I live?" – How will we choose to react to our situations?
- James 1:5 encourages believers to ask God for wisdom, and He gives generously without finding fault.

→ **Main Takeaway:** When life gets blurry and the way forward isn't clear, Jesus gives wisdom through His Spirit to those who seek Him.