

# CHASING AFTER GOD



## 2 Timothy 3:16-17

16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

# **The Wilderness Experience**

- God's favorite place to train His people is in the Wilderness.
  - Fewer distractions, better focus, better chance to HEAR.

**Wilderness = The Place where God speaks**

**Why the Wilderness?**

**Deuteronomy 8:2-3\***

## Deuteronomy 8:2-3

2 "And you shall remember that the LORD your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not.

3 "So He **humiliated you**, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, **that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD.**

## *David*

- Shepherding in the Wilderness
- Wilderness of Ziph
- Wilderness of Maon
- Wilderness of En Gedi
- Wilderness of Paran

# CHASING AFTER GOD

A silhouette of a warrior with a feathered headdress, holding a long spear and a shield, stands over a smaller figure who is also holding a spear. The background is a warm, golden-yellow gradient with a textured, painterly appearance.

Message #7

**Tender-Hearted in Tough Times (Part 1)**  
**(1 Samuel 23)**

## 1 SAMUEL 23

- 1 Then they told David, saying, "Look, the Philistines are fighting against Keilah, and they are robbing the threshing floors."
- 2 Therefore David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I go and attack these Philistines?" And the LORD said to David, "Go and attack the Philistines, and save Keilah."

## 1 SAMUEL 23

3 But David's men said to him, "Look, we are afraid here in Judah. How much more then if we go to Keilah against the armies of the Philistines?"

4 Then David inquired of the LORD once again. And the LORD answered him and said, "Arise, go down to Keilah. For I will deliver the Philistines into your hand."



## 1 SAMUEL 23

5 And David and his men went to Keilah and fought with the Philistines, struck them with a mighty blow, and took away their livestock. So David saved the inhabitants of Keilah.

## 1 SAMUEL 23

6 Now it happened, when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David at Keilah, that he went down with an ephod in his hand.

7 And Saul was told that David had gone to Keilah. So Saul said, "God has delivered him into my hand, for he has shut himself in by entering a town that has gates and bars."

## 1 SAMUEL 23

8 Then Saul called all the people together for war, to go down to Keilah to besiege David and his men.

9 When David knew that Saul plotted evil against him, he said to Abiathar the priest, "Bring the ephod here."

## 1 SAMUEL 23

10 Then David said, "O LORD God of Israel,  
Your servant has certainly heard that Saul  
seeks to come to Keilah to destroy the city for  
my sake.

## 1 SAMUEL 23

11 "Will the men of Keilah deliver me into his hand? Will Saul come down, as Your servant has heard? O LORD God of Israel, I pray, tell Your servant." And the LORD said, "He will come down."

12 Then David said, "Will the men of Keilah deliver me and my men into the hand of Saul?" And the LORD said, "They will deliver you."

## 1 SAMUEL 23

14 And David stayed in strongholds in the wilderness, and remained in the mountains in the Wilderness of Ziph. Saul sought him every day, but God did not deliver him into his hand.

## 1 SAMUEL 23

15 So David saw that Saul had come out to seek his life. And David was in the Wilderness of Ziph in a forest.

16 Then Jonathan, Saul's son, arose and went to David in the woods and strengthened his hand in God.

(NKJV)

Let's discover some Faith Lessons  
around the idea of  
Staying Tender-hearted  
in Tough Times



(vs 2) **David inquired** of the LORD...

And **the LORD said** to David

(vs 4) **David inquired** of the LORD once again....

And **the LORD answered** him and said

(vs 10) Then **David said**, O LORD God of Israel...

And **the LORD said**

(vs 12) Then **David said**....And **the LORD said**

**The Two Parts of Prayer: Asking & Listening**

## **FAITH LESSON**

**Ask The LORD about what you should do and listen for the answer.**

**People are not a substitute for God.**

## *The Deception is Deep*

(vs 7)

Saul said, “God has delivered him into my hands.”

**Talking God,  
Acting like the devil.**



**DAVID IS BACK!**

**VS 5**

**So David saved the  
inhabitants of Keilah.**

**But the people David helped....**

**What do you do when  
people you help hurt you?**

**How will you respond?**

## **FAITH LESSON**

**Don't allow your heart to  
harden.**

**You cannot quit because someone hurt  
you. Forgive, move on & keep serving.**

**In the very next David story  
in Chapter 22,  
David is betrayed again.**

## ***Jesus, Matthew 10:14***

"And whoever will not receive you nor hear your words, when you depart from that house or city, shake off the dust from your feet."

**Shake it Off and Move Forward  
Wiser, Stronger, Tender**



## ***Jesus, Matthew 24:10***

"And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.

**Jesus gives this as one of the signs of the end-times.**

**How are you going to deal?**

## ***Hebrews 12:15***

looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the  
grace of God; lest any root of bitterness  
springing up cause trouble, and by this many  
become defiled;

**How does a root get there?**

## ***Ezekiel 3:8-9***

8 "Behold, I have made your face strong against their faces, and your forehead strong against their foreheads.

9 "Like adamant stone, harder than flint, I have made your forehead; do not be afraid of them, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they are a rebellious house."

**Either life will make you hard-headed or  
God can make you hard-headed.**

**(2 Different Things)**

**Jesus wants to minister to your  
wounded spirit**

**Jesus is the  
Broken-Heart Healer!**

**Pray**

**What a healing Jesus I've found in You**

**What a healing Jesus**

**You restore, refresh and renew**

**What a healing Jesus for such a time as this**

**Arise on healing wings**

**Son of Righteousness**

## **Numbers 6:24-26**

24 "The LORD bless you and keep you;

25 The LORD make His face shine upon  
you, and be gracious to you;

26 The LORD lift up His countenance upon  
you, and give you peace."