

***Recap of 8/10/25 message by Pastor Chris Sommerfield
("Finding God's Guidance in Confusion") 1 Samuel 23:1-29:***

1 Samuel 23 narrates the pivotal moments when David, pursued by Saul, seeks God's direction concerning whether to rescue the people of Keilah from the Philistines. This chapter highlights David's reliance on God for guidance amidst uncertainty and danger, illustrating how divine wisdom shapes our decisions. In times of confusion and decision, we must seek God's guidance, trusting that His wisdom will direct our paths and lead us to fulfill His purposes. We also see the importance of supportive relationships. Jonathan encourages David in the LORD.

David shows dependence on God as he is deciding to confront the Philistines to save Keilah. He only has 400 men, and there is great risk to himself and his people especially considering the pursuit of Saul and his army. Yet David shows reliance on the LORD and trust and obedience in His calling and provision. David saves Keilah through the LORD's strength and rescues the innocent people. At least 200 more people join his ranks after this. David again shows reliance on God's wisdom in deciding to flee the city by seeking the LORD's guidance through Abiathar the priest when he learns of Saul's plot for evil against him and the city. This drives us to consider how we seek God's guidance and wisdom in our own lives. Through reading His word and prayer we enter into His presence as children seeking the Father's help.

Supportive relationships also play an important role. Jonathan's visit to David reinforces God's supportive presence through community. Believers too should find strength in godly friendships and the faith community when seeking guidance. We must consider, are there things we believe to be either too big or too small to bring before the LORD? Do we "in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving" let our requests be made known to God (Philippians 4:6-7)? Do we value godly relationships, or do our friendships pull us away from the LORD? How are we cultivating habits and godly relationships that encourage seeking God's guidance and wisdom?