

# Live in Obedience to God's Word

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1 Samuel 23:1-18

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## Inquiring of the Lord

- God protects David by giving him revelation
- David was faithful and inquired of the Lord
- God had sent David the prophet Gad<sup>22:5</sup>

## A Crisis Arises

- Word comes to David about Keilah's plight<sup>1</sup>
- David cares deeply for God's people and their plight
- Saul should be protecting God's people<sup>1Sam10:1</sup>
- David's men weren't excited about having 2 enemies<sup>3</sup>
- David inquired of the Lord AGAIN to teach his men how<sup>Ps19:7-8;40:4</sup>

## The Reign of God's Word

- David points his men to the power of God's Word<sup>Rom10:17</sup>
- As a Church we look to the sole authority of God's Word
- David didn't lead by his authority but by authority of God's Word
- APPLY: let God's word REIGN in your life and home
- David's obedience rewarded: men followed in unity; God carried out his promise to defeat; men blessed with food; people saved
- God also sent Abiathar with the ephod and Urim & Thummim<sup>6</sup>

## Rescued by God's Word

- David's obedience didn't mean all problems went away!
- David encountered troubles so he would inquire of the Lord
- Saul looked at circumstances and though God was with him<sup>7-8</sup>
- David again inquired specifically about what to do<sup>10</sup>
- David learned Saul was willing to destroy Keilah to get to him
- David left to protect God's people<sup>23:13</sup>

## But I Don't Hear from God like David

- We have what we need of God's Word: Scriptures<sup>2Tim3:15-17</sup>
- How can you know God's Will in your unique situation?
- From *Discovering God's Will*<sup>Sinclair Ferguson, Banner of Truth Magazine, #219, Dec 1981</sup>

### 1) Is it lawful?

- The law guides us in the believer's freedom<sup>Gal5:1</sup>
- Believers are not saved for unholy living<sup>1Cor6:9-11</sup>
- Know the Ten Commands<sup>Ex20;Deut5;WSC Q40-81</sup>

### 2) Is it beneficial to me?

- If not forbidden by the law, the how does it affect me?<sup>1Cor6:12</sup>
- We were saved to be holy<sup>1Pet1:15</sup>

### 3) Is it enslaving to me?

- Be careful to not be dominated by anything but Christ<sup>1Cor6:12</sup>
- Example of athlete & self-control<sup>1Cor9:25-27</sup>
- We don't earn salvation, but live holy because of God's mercy<sup>Tit3:5</sup>

### 4) Is it consistent with Christ's Lordship in my life?

- We're in Union with Christ<sup>Eph1:4-6,7-14</sup>
- Think Christ is always with me<sup>1Cor6:15</sup>; can I take Christ with me?

### 5) Is it helpful to Others?

- as believers we are in community<sup>Rm14:13-23;1Cor10:23-33</sup>
- Our actions can cause others to stumble<sup>Rm3:21</sup> we must be careful

### 6) Is it Consistent with Biblical Examples?

- Bible full of examples<sup>1Cor11:1;Phil3:17;2Ths3:7;2Tim3:10;Heb6:12:13:7</sup> to follow
- Examples show us good and bad – live for Jesus' glory!

### 7) Does it Bring Glory to God?

- Do your actions bring glory to God<sup>1Cor10:31</sup>?