



1 SAMUEL 27:1-28:2

GETTING STARTED...

What do you do when you panic? Often we resort to either “fight” or “flight” when we feel scared. As David is feeling Saul breathing down his neck, he seems to go into a panic and this time chooses “flight.” David flees Israel altogether and ends up living with their enemies. As we are so often overcome with panic and fear, we are reminded that God is our only refuge in times of trouble. While it can seem like we are alone in the battle, God is always with us and sometimes the best thing we can do is stop and remember, God is always in control.

READ THE TEXT: 1 SAMUEL 27:1-28:2

27 Then David said in his heart, “Now I shall perish one day by the hand of Saul. There is nothing better for me than that I should escape to the land of the Philistines. Then Saul will despair of seeking me any longer within the borders of Israel, and I shall escape out of his hand.” **2** So David arose and went over, he and the six hundred men who were with him, to Achish the son of Maach, king of Gath. **3** And David lived with Achish at Gath, he and his men, every man with his household, and David with his two wives, Ahinoam of Jezreel, and Abigail of Carmel, Nabal’s widow. **4** And when it was told Saul that David had fled to Gath, he no longer sought him.

5 Then David said to Achish, “If I have found favor in your eyes, let a place be given me in one of the country towns, that I may dwell there. For why should your servant dwell in the royal city with you?” **6** So that day Achish gave him Ziklag. Therefore Ziklag has belonged to the kings of Judah to this day. **7** And the number of the days that David lived in the country of the Philistines was a year and four months.

8 Now David and his men went up and made raids against the Geshurites, the Girzites, and the Amalekites, for these were the inhabitants of the land from of old, as far as Shur, to the land of Egypt. **9** And David would strike the land and would leave neither man nor woman alive, but would take away the sheep, the oxen,

the donkeys, the camels, and the garments, and come back to Achish. ¹⁰ When Achish asked, "Where have you made a raid today?" David would say, "Against the Negeb of Judah," or, "Against the Negeb of the Jerahmeelites," or, "Against the Negeb of the Kenites." ¹¹ And David would leave neither man nor woman alive to bring news to Gath, thinking, "lest they should tell about us and say, 'So David has done.'" Such was his custom all the while he lived in the country of the Philistines. ¹² And Achish trusted David, thinking, "He has made himself an utter stench to his people Israel; therefore he shall always be my servant."

28 In those days the Philistines gathered their forces for war, to fight against Israel. And Achish said to David, "Understand that you and your men are to go out with me in the army." ² David said to Achish, "Very well, you shall know what your servant can do." And Achish said to David, "Very well, I will make you my bodyguard for life."

UNDERSTANDING THE WORD

1. David has a complicated history with Gath. Look at 1 Sam 17:4 and 1 Sam 21:10-15. How would these previous experiences have influenced his decision to flee to Gath?
2. Achish the king ends up loving David, why? How does that contrast with how Saul feels about him?

REFLECTING ON THE SERMON

3. What was the main point of the sermon?
4. What has God been applying to your heart from the sermon?

APPLYING THE POINT

5. Why do you think David's faith faltered after the awesome way he trusted God in the chapter before?
6. When was a time that your faith became shaky? What caused it, and how did this affect you?
7. What has helped you to trust God during difficult times?
8. Can you tell us of a time when God came through for you in a big way as you trusted and obeyed Him?

PRAYING & SHARING

1. How can you share what you have learned with... another believer? An unbeliever?
2. Share and pray for one another in your life group. How can you specifically pray for and encourage one another in response to this text?



How to Use this Guide

This guide is intended to help facilitate Promontory Small Groups as they meet to understand the Bible passage, discuss the sermon, and how to put it into practice in our lives. What is contained in this guide is not an exhaustive text analysis nor a full list of questions that can or should be asked during Small Group. This is simply a guide to help **start conversations that are centered on the Word of God.**

The Small Group Guide is separated into three main sections that are arranged with an intentional order: *Understanding the Word, Reflecting on the Sermon, and Applying the Point.* We want to first understand the Word of God, then check that understanding by what has been preached, and then discuss how to put it into practice in our own lives. The order is intended to imitate the process of how the Word of God makes changes in our lives. Head, heart, hands, and all of it wrapped in prayer.

Our goal is not that you answer every question in this guide, but that you are able to discuss the Word of God in a way **that helps everyone follow Jesus together!**

*“Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.” - Psalm 111:2*