



JANUARY 29, 2017

**Living Faith Chapel, Calgary
(Solution Center)**

DIVINE GUIDANCE - THE DAVID EXAMPLE

It is another time in the presence of the Lord, and it's a day to be happy and be glad. Today is the last Sunday of the first month of the year 2017 and the first half of the 40 days' fasting and prayer. We should bless the name of the Lord for answers to prayers, for the gift of life and for His divine direction. Yes, "divine direction" is the focus of our bible study for this month. Stressing the importance of divine direction, the Psalmist asked a rhetorical question and emphatically gave an answer to that question: "***How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word.***" (Psalm 119: 9-11).

In continuation of our focus on divine direction, we shall be studying a spectacular example of a man who relied on divine direction. David is the character! David's life without doubt has many things to teach us concerning divine guidance. He of all men cited in the Bible has the most record of seeking and obtaining direction from the Lord at major milestones of his life. (*1 Sam. 23:1-12; 2 Sam. 2:1-2; 2 Sam. 5:17-25; 2 Sam 21:1* as well as in this text). No wonder he was one of Israel's most successful kings and no wonder he never lost any battle. God testifies of him regarding this in *Acts 13:22*. What are the things that this expert in seeking guidance reveal to us:

1. **He did not act hurriedly based on other leadings 1 Samuel 30:1-6** - David could have acted based on other prompting/leadings/understanding but he was not in a hurry to follow these. David could have taken action at Ziklag based on: (a) Emotion (b) Pressure (c) Military Expertise or (d) Common sense, but he "stupidly" refused to. He chose not to lean on his own understanding. ***Prov. 3:5;***
2. **He valued God's input and so consulted God as often as was required and was never denied (1 Samuel 30:7-8)**. David placed a high value on God's wisdom. To unlock God's wisdom, we must show we value it (***Matthew 7:6-7***). As many times as David asked, direction was given. God is never tired of us asking for guidance. When in doubt, always ask. Big or small, you can ask. See the account in ***1 Sam.23*** where David asks a series of questions (***Prov. 3:6; 1Peter 5:7; James 1:5-6***).
3. **Direction was provided in different ways & he was sensitive to recognize God's leading (1 Samuel 30:8;13-16)**. David properly identified God's ways/means of giving him direction, which takes practise and experience. (***1Sam 23:2-4***) (no record of ephod); (***1Sam 23:6-10; 1Sam 3:1-10***). There are 2 agents that God used in the main text to give David direction - (a) The priest through the ephod (Urim and Thurrim) (b) the Egyptian lad that they encountered on the way. We must properly identify how God speaks to us and this varies from person to person.
4. **He acted on given directions & got results (1 Sam. 30:9-10)**. David acted in faith based on the directions. He did not doubt, he was not afraid of making mistakes - he ended up recovering all. Nothing missing and nothing broken. (Also in ***2 Sam. 5:22-25***). Be assured that you also will get results as you follow God's directions. (***John 2:5; Isaiah 30:21***). Our Lord Jesus always acted based on the Father's directive (***John 4:34***). There were many dead people in Israel but our Lord did not attempt to raise them all. Those He attempted, He always succeeded because He was operating under the Father's directives (***John 5:19***).

When you operate under the Father's directives, there are always results however negative things may look (***John 11:4-6***). As we walk under His guidance, we need not fear evil because there will be protection from all evil. As we walk in His Will, the irreversible will be reversed and the giant locked up in us will be released (***John 11:7-11***).

BUS STOP

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



© 2007 Michael D. Waters
www.joyfultoons.com

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves,

- COLOSSIANS 1:13 NIV

NOTE: If you have been blessed by our Word for the Week or inspired in any way by them, please let us know by sending an email to The Pastor at pastor@rccglfc.org