



David's Faith Falters: Life Among the Philistines (1 Sam 27-28)

Notes: Week Sixteen

David Among the Philistines - [1 Samuel 27:1-12](#)¹

Topics: [Deceit](#), [Escape](#), [Family](#), [Habits](#), [Hospitality](#), [Husbands](#), [Loyalty](#), [Obligation](#), [Partnerships](#), [Protection](#), [Rejection](#), [Relationships](#), [Reliability](#), [Reputation](#), [Success](#), [Trust](#), [War](#), [Wives](#)

Open It

1. *How strong is the bond that comes from having a common enemy?
2. What sorts of attitudes or behavior in another person inspire you to trust him or her?

Explore It

3. Why did David feel it necessary to protect himself from Saul? ([27:1](#))
4. What plan did David devise to escape from Saul once and for all? ([27:1](#))
5. *Where did David and his men settle when they left Israel? ([27:2-3](#))
6. What was Saul's response when he heard that David had left the country? ([27:4](#))
7. What request did David make of Achish, king of Gath? ([27:5](#))
8. What city was given to David as a gift by Achish? ([27:6](#))
9. How long did David live in Philistine territory? ([27:7](#))
10. How did David conduct his raids from Philistine territory? ([27:8-9](#))
11. With what impression was Achish left concerning David's raids? ([27:10](#))
12. *What was David's reason for killing all the people wherever he raided? ([27:11](#))
13. *What was Achish's primary reason for trusting David? ([27:12](#))

1. *Adult Questions for LESSONMaker*, (Austin, TX: Wordsearch, 1992), WORDsearch CROSS e-book, Under: "David Among the Philistines - 1 Samuel 27:1-12".

Get It

14. In what different ways did David ingratiate himself with the king of Gath?
15. *Why did David want to create the impression in Gath that he was raiding Israelite territory?
16. If fleeing and hiding cease to be options, how else might you protect yourself from a more powerful enemy?
17. *What is the place of strategy and cunning in the life of the believer?
18. To what extent should we avoid appearing to be a traitor?

Apply It

19. *How might you use your God-given intelligence to solve a dilemma facing you this week?
20. What could you keep in a prominent place to remind yourself that your loyalty to God transcends all others?

Saul and the Witch of Endor - [1 Samuel 28:1-25](#)²

Topics: [Answers](#), [Confusion](#), [Consequences](#), [Conversation](#), [Darkness](#), [Deceit](#), [Despair](#), [Disobedience](#), [Enemies](#), [Fasting](#), [Fear](#), [Frustration](#), [Guidance](#), [Guilt](#), [Hopelessness](#), [Hypocrisy](#), [Judgment](#), [Occult](#), [Prophecy](#), [Rationalizing](#), [Rejection](#), [Silence](#), [Sin](#)

Open It

1. Why are human beings often eager to know the future?
2. *What instance do you know of someone who exempts himself or herself from his or her own rules?

Explore It

3. *What was the status of mediums and spiritists in Israel in the days of Samuel and Saul? ([28:3](#))
4. What new danger struck terror in the heart of Saul? ([28:5](#))
5. What did God have to say to Saul in light of his predicament? ([28:6](#))
6. *Where did Saul turn for guidance when he got no word from God? ([28:7-8](#))
7. Why was the woman at Endor afraid to call up a spirit for her visitors? ([28:9](#))
8. Whose spirit did Saul seek to consult? ([28:11](#))
9. What did the spiritist know as soon as she saw Samuel? ([28:12](#))
10. What did Saul ask of the spirit of Samuel when they faced one another at Endor? ([28:15](#))
11. *What was Samuel's reply to Saul about his fortunes in the battle to come? ([28:16-19](#))
12. In what condition was Saul after his encounter with Samuel? ([28:20](#))
13. What did the spiritist and Saul's assistants do for Saul after Samuel left them? ([28:21-25](#))

² . *Adult Questions for LESSONMaker*, (Austin, TX: Wordsearch, 1992), WORDsearch CROSS e-book, Under: "Saul and the Witch of Endor - 1 Samuel 28:1-25".

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14. What did Saul reveal about himself when he chose to consult a medium?
15. What does this incident tell us about Saul?
16. *Why did Saul try to bend the rules for himself?
17. Why was Saul's deception suddenly apparent to the medium when she saw Samuel?
18. How was Samuel's message to Saul just like those he had given to Saul before?
19. *In what circumstances might you be tempted to make yourself the exception to your own rule?
20. What's wrong with consulting spiritists and mediums?
21. Why had God become Saul's "enemy"?
22. Why isn't it possible to sidestep God's laws and God's judgments?

Apply It

23. How can you begin to work toward balancing your desire to know the future with your respect for God and His laws?
24. *How can you remind yourself to check your own obedience before you impose a rule on someone else?