

THE WILDERNESS: DAVID AT ZIKLAG
TIM CHADDICK, REALITY L.A.

Winston Churchill spoke of depression, personal battles and discouragement. Because he faced the darkness earlier in life, at 60, he was able to lead the nation of England to victory. He called these seasons of adversity the black dog.

The Bible calls it the wilderness. Your circumstances seem confusing, all of your choices seem complicated, things don't appear to be going right direction seems distant dreams are unfulfilled many of your gifts are not being used and you feel on the shelf.

Will God's Word come to pass? Everyone will go through a wilderness time.

God, what does this mean?
God, where are you?

Though the wilderness is not what you want, it is what you need. How people change for good and bad. Decisions we make will determine filled with vice or virtue.

Wilderness theme of David is sandwiched between two other wilderness stories.

Moses and the children of Israel, learned not to trust in idols, but to trust in the living God.

Jesus faced Satan in the wilderness and defined what kind of Messiah he would be.

David is pushed out by envious, murderous Saul. Saul is on his throne and David is on the run.

This story shows a clear contrast between Saul and David. Both are in a deep crisis and at risk. Opposite response.
God blesses David in spite of his bad choices. When God convicts him, he shows repentance.

His obedient moments point to Jesus. His disobedient moments point to our need for Jesus.

1 Samuel 30: 1-25

David was in the wilderness for 10 years. David spent all of his twenties in the desert.

This story David will make some decisions that will shape his leadership in the future.

This story marks the final story of David on the run. Brook Basor-Good News.

Three vital lessons:

In the wilderness we discover our need to listen. To whom do you turn?

David is in trouble. Just when you've been through enough, there might be some more. David was raided by the Amalekites. They raided and took everything. Now David's men want to kill him.

Sometimes, like David, we function out of fear. David sought refuge in the Philistine camp, pretended to be insane. Identity crisis.

We are looking for stones to throw when you've lost things.

Some of you have gone through very unwelcome turns and we look for targets.

God was teaching David to listen to the right voice.

You can always find encouragement in God. V.6 "David was distressed, but David strengthened himself in the Lord His God."

How?

David remembered that he had a God who listens. He's learning to listen to God's response.

David expressed his emotions honestly. You need to mourn and grieve.

The other extreme, we grieve, we mourn, and we won't get out of it.

Psalms gives us permission to live through ups and downs.

We must pray. He inquired and he listened.

We can inquire of God and you can listen to Him.

Answer through the priestly provision. The priest was the go-between. But we have a greater high priest.

We are invited to have access into the presence of God.

Why don't you pray? Why don't we come to God in prayer?

Since then, we have a great High Priest, draw near with confidence in our time of need.

We can inquire of God through the Word. It should be the first thing we consult. The Spirit speaks to us.

Don't wait until the wilderness to learn to pray.

David got a specific answer. God, what do I do?

God may not give answers in the time frame we would like.

There are times when God is growing my faith. I need to re-learn some things.

God always answers prayer. It may not be the answer we want, at the time we want, in the way we want. but we need to leave that to God.

Paul's thorn in the flesh. He asked God to take it away. God said "no."

Saul is operating out of envy and insecurity. If you take Saul and David's life at the same time, David is seeking God. Saul was seeking the witch of Endor. Saul wants the supernatural, but without the inconvenience of a relationship with God.

"You will seek, and you will find Me."

Saul wanted stuff that God could give. In the David wilderness story, hunted and hated. Forced to choose between blasphemy and prayer.

David had as many names of God as needs he had.

Lord-Ruler You rule and govern my life.

Look at names of God-character represents ways God meets us. Our Creator, our Deliverer, our Healer, One who sees, our Provider, our Shepherd, our Rock.

Connect with His names and listen.

2. Our need to lean in the wilderness season. We must rely upon what God provides. Wilderness seasons is when our lives are stripped away.

God makes us aware of our limits to learn of His provision.

He had swords, army, King's food. He's pushed out into wilderness and has nothing.

Wilderness is our time of equipping. It's one thing to know about God's promises, but it's another to read those words through your tears.

The Holy Spirit-Who is He?

Once God reveals, David steps out and receives God's provision. David had these men-group that he did not expect, but they step out, God provides.

Even when God gives us assurance of an outcome, it will still take work.

The promise produced activity. Vs. 16-20, they had to go and fight.

We are led, we participate.

I want you to take step in that direction.

If we neglect what God wants to work through us, but He is also teaching us to make choices.

We must lean upon our God.

Take steps of faith.

We discover in the wilderness, we need to learn.. Who God is, and who we are before God.

Experiences in the wilderness force to choose. David could choose to reveal his true self.

Time of breaking patterns, old patterns.

Makes the decisions out of that. A coming attraction of the kind of king he would be.

If you want to know who to follow, look at the decisions we make in the wilderness season.

David operates out of conviction.

When David returns some were too exhausted to follow. Those who came with the King don't want to share the spoils. Treated the whole victory as a gift from God. It would be a statute in this day, equal share for all.

Last ones treated like the first.

Difficult seasons teach us grace. Grace keeps you from worshipping yourself.

Brokenness is where you find grace. God gives me what I don't deserve. Grace is a gift.

God will never let go of us. Understanding grace is understanding God.

<https://vimeo.com/99543205>

[1 Corinthians 15:10](#), [1 Corinthians 4:7](#), [1 Samuel 30:1-25](#), [adversity](#), [challenge](#), [challenges](#), [David](#), [depend](#), [dependence](#), [depression](#), [despair](#), [difficulties](#), [difficulty](#), [direction](#), [dry](#), [dryness](#), [equip](#), [equipping](#), [God](#), [grace](#), [gracious](#), [grow](#), [growing](#), [guidance](#), [Hebrews 4:14](#), [Hebrews 4:16](#), [identity](#), [identity in Christ](#), [Isaiah 43:19](#), [Jesus](#), [Jesus Christ](#), [lean](#), [leaning](#), [learn](#), [learning](#), [listen](#), [listening](#), [pray](#), [prayer](#), [reliance](#), [rely](#), [Saul](#), [test](#), [testing](#), [The Royals](#), [Tim Chaddick](#), [trial](#), [trials](#), [trouble](#), [troubles](#), [trust](#), [trusting](#), [vice](#), [vices](#), [victory](#), [virtue](#), [virtues](#), [virtuous](#), [wilderness](#)