

AMAZING STORIES

The Peacemaker (Abigail)

Sunday, August 7, 2022

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Stepping Stones Community Church

1. Foolish words can create trouble

- Nabal put all of their lives at risk
- Abigail saw an opportunity for peace

¹⁰ “Who is this fellow David?” Nabal sneered to the young men. “Who does this son of Jesse think he is? There are lots of servants these days who run away from their masters.

¹¹ Should I take my bread and my water and my meat that I’ve slaughtered for my shearers and give it to a band of outlaws who come from who knows where?”

1 Samuel 25:10-11 NLT

2. Abigail, the peacemaker, steps up to help

- Gifts
- Kind words
- Humbleness

²³ When Abigail saw David, she quickly got off her donkey and bowed low before him. ²⁴ She fell at his feet and said, “I accept all blame in this matter, my lord. Please listen to what I have to say. ²⁵ I know Nabal is a wicked and ill-tempered man; please don’t pay any attention to him. He is a fool, just as his name suggests. But I never even saw the young men you sent. ²⁶ “Now, my lord, as surely as the LORD lives and you yourself live, since the LORD has kept you from murdering and taking vengeance into your own hands, let all your enemies and those who try to harm you be as cursed as Nabal is. ²⁷ And here is a present that I, your servant,

have brought to you and your young men. ²⁸ Please forgive me if I have offended you in any way. The LORD will surely reward you with a lasting dynasty, for you are fighting the LORD’s battles. And you have not done wrong throughout your entire life.

1 Samuel 25:23-28 NLT

³² David replied to Abigail, “Praise the LORD, the God of Israel, who has sent you to meet me today! ³³ Thank God for your good sense! Bless you for keeping me from murder and from carrying out vengeance with my own hands. ³⁴ For I swear by the LORD, the God of Israel, who has kept me from hurting you, that if you had not hurried out to meet me, not one of Nabal’s men would still be alive tomorrow morning.”

³⁵ Then David accepted her present and told her, “Return home in peace. I have heard what you said. We will not kill your husband.”

1 Samuel 25:32-35 NLT

3. Abigail saved her household and David from trouble

³⁹ When David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, “Praise the LORD, who has avenged the insult I received from Nabal and has kept me from doing it myself. Nabal has received the punishment for his sin.” Then David sent messengers to Abigail to ask her to become his wife. 1 Samuel 25:39 NLT

Next Steps:

- Read 1 Samuel 25 this week
- Commit to follow Abigail’s example and be a peacemaker, using the 3 tools she used
- Focus on not escalating problems by being quiet (when I struggle to make peace)
- Pray for peace with _____
- _____