

## My Right to be Offended

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*Sensible people control their temper; they earn respect by overlooking wrongs.* **Proverbs 19:11 NLT**

### 1. God wants me to...

- **Overlook offenses**
- **Give others the benefit of the doubt**

*Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love.* **Ephesians 4:2 NLT**

<sup>4</sup> When David heard that Nabal was shearing his sheep, <sup>5</sup> he sent ten of his young men to Carmel with this message for Nabal: <sup>6</sup> "Peace and prosperity to you, your family, and everything you own!" <sup>7</sup> I am told that it is sheep-shearing time. While your shepherds stayed among us near Carmel, we never harmed them, and nothing was ever stolen from them. <sup>8</sup> Ask your own men, and they will tell you this is true. So would you be kind to us, since we have come at a time of celebration? Please share any provisions you might have on hand with us and with your friend David." <sup>9</sup> David's young men gave this message to Nabal in David's name, and they waited for a reply. <sup>10</sup> "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. <sup>11</sup> 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?" <sup>12</sup> So David's young men returned and told him what Nabal had said.

<sup>13</sup> "Get your swords!" was David's reply as he strapped on his own. Then 400 men started off with David, and 200 remained behind to guard their equipment.

**1 Samuel 25: 4-13 NLT**

<sup>20</sup> As she was riding her donkey into a mountain ravine, she saw David and his men coming toward her. <sup>21</sup> David had just been saying, "A lot of good it did to help this fellow. We protected his flocks in the wilderness, and nothing he owned was lost or stolen. But he has repaid me evil for good. <sup>22</sup> May God strike me and kill me if even one man of his household is still alive tomorrow morning!" **1 Samuel 25:20-22 NLT**

### 2. I want to sacrifice my right to be offended, so I will...

- **Forgive as I've been forgiven**
- **Become a peacemaker (Like Abigail)**

<sup>32</sup> David replied to Abigail, "Praise the LORD, the God of Israel, who has sent you to meet me today!" <sup>33</sup> Thank God for your good sense! Bless you for keeping me from murder and from carrying out vengeance with my own hands.

**1 Samuel 25:32-33 NLT**

### Next Steps:

- Commit to let go of offenses and choose to be patient and to forgive: \_\_\_\_\_
- I surrender my right to be offended
- Commit to become a peacemaker like Abigail
- Read 1 Samuel 25 this week
- Commit to attend the final message of this series (or watch on our Youtube channel)
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