

Life Lessons From 1 Samuel
A Crisis Defused by a Wise Woman
1 Samuel 25:1-44 (page 203)

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The Players (1 Sam 25:1-3):

David (v 1):

- David suffers another significant Loss (v 1, 44)

Nabal (v 2-3):

- His name means "fool"
- "*wealthy*" = heavy
- a descendant of Caleb (Num 14:6-9; Josh 14:10-14)
- "*surly*" = hard, stubborn, belligerent
- "*mean in his dealings*" = he was dishonest, deceptive

Abigail (v 3):

- Her name means "Father's joy" or "source of joy"
- "*intelligent*" = literally, good understanding
- "*beautiful*" = literally, a beautiful form

The Backdrop (1 Sam 25:4-13):

David's request (vs 4-9):

Nabal's response (vs 10-11; 1 Peter 2:20-23):

The resulting crisis (vs 12-13; Rom 12:17-21):

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God's Supernatural Solution - Abigail (1 Sam 25:14-31)

Abigail facilitates godly resolution by:

- receiving the truth behind the crisis (vs 14-17)
- taking decisive action (vs 18-19)
- taking courageous initiative (vs 20-22)
- exhibiting a submissive attitude (vs 23-25)
- offering wise counsel (vs 26-27)
- her humble plea (vs 28-31)

The Crisis is Resolved (1 Sam 25:32-45)

- David receives God's counsel through Abigail (vs 32-35)
 - He praises God for sending her (v 32; Proverbs 15:31; 17:10)
 - He blesses Abigail for keeping him from bloodshed (vs 33-34; James 3:17-18)
 - He receives her provision and grants her request (v 35)
- God's judgment falls on Nabal (vs 36-38; Phil 3:19)
- God's blessings come upon David and Abigail's obedience (vs 39-42)

Life Lessons:

- (1) Beware of living for this world and the immediate rewards rather than living for eternity and the future rewards (Heb 11:13-16; 1 Peter 2:11-12; 4:12-14)
- (2) Be aware of God's divine interventions that keep us from pursuing foolishness and reveal His amazing grace in our lives (Num 22:21-38; 2 Cor 12:7-10)
- (3) Be willing to recognize that truth, wisdom and spiritual insight do not always follow the chain of command.
- (4) Yesterday's victories are no guarantee of victory today (1 Peter 5:8; 1 Cor 10:12)