

DISCUSSION NOTES

MAY 3, 2020

Start by praying and asking for God's help as you seek to grow as authentic followers of Jesus.

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

1. Read 1 Samuel 25:14-43. Make 5-7 observations. What happens? What do we learn about these people? What is the big idea?
2. Verse 17 says that Nabal "is such a worthless man that one cannot speak to him." This becomes a theme of this chapter. What obvious contrast do we see between this description of Nabal and the way David responds to Abigail?
3. In verse 26, Abigail says that "the Lord has restrained you" from sinning, even though she is the one who is directly intervening to keep David out of trouble. How then should we view those who help us to see our blindspots and weaknesses? What does this say about the importance of Christian community to our spiritual health?
4. David thanks Abigail for preventing him from "working salvation with my own hand." What do you think this phrase is describing? In what ways can we attempt to do the same sort of thing in our lives?
5. In verses 27-31, Abigail reminds David of important truths that he has forgotten or neglected about *who God is* and *what God has promised* to him. What things does she urge David to remember?
6. Read John 1:11 and Isaiah 53:3. How does Nabal's treatment of the future king David mirror humanity's treatment of the future king Jesus? How does this make you appreciate the humility and character of Jesus which was needed to bring about our salvation?

LIVING IT OUT

7. Do you believe that God restrains you and keeps you from evil? Can you think of situations where God intervened to keep you out of trouble? How aware are you that God is working for you?
8. When you consider the ways Abigail intervenes for good in this crisis, which of the following most stood out to you in the sermon (circle one below)? Why is that aspect of her intervention so important?
 - Initiative
 - Thoughtfulness
 - Wisdom
 - Tact
 - Sacrifice
 - Loyalty
 - Faith
9. How can we be more like Abigail in fighting for one another's spiritual well-being?
10. Is it hard for you to receive the correction or intervention of others as a gift from God? Are you as correctable as David or in danger of being a Nabal that no one can talk to? Why or why not?
11. This week, what do you need to remember about *who God is* and *what God has promised* to you?