

CELEBRATION BIBLE STUDY NOTES
'GREAT LESSONS FROM THE LESS KNOWN'



NABAL (ABIGAIL)

HEROES EMBRACE LIFE AS IT IS

Now Samuel died, and all Israel gathered for his funeral. They buried him at his house in Ramah. Then David moved down to the wilderness of Maon. There was a wealthy man from Maon who owned property near the town of Carmel. He had 3,000 sheep and 1,000 goats, and it was sheep-shearing time. This man's name was Nabal, and his wife, Abigail, was a sensible and beautiful woman. But Nabal, a descendant of Caleb, was crude and mean in all his dealings.

Samuel 25:1-3

"Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world." John 16:33b

HEROES WILL ALWAYS LISTEN TO THE TRUTH

Meanwhile, one of Nabal's servants went to Abigail and told her, "David sent messengers from the wilderness to greet our master, but he screamed insults at them. These men have been very good to us, and we never suffered any harm from them. Nothing was stolen from us the whole time they were with us. In fact, day and night they were like a wall of protection to us and the sheep. You need to know this and figure out what to do, for there is going to be trouble for our master and his whole family. He's so ill-tempered that no one can even talk to him!"

1 Samuel 25:14-17

Fools think their own way is right, but the wise listen to others.

Proverbs 12:15

HEROES DON'T WAIT TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT

Abigail flew into action. She took two hundred loaves of bread, two skins of wine, five sheep dressed out and ready for cooking, a bushel of roasted grain, a hundred raisin cakes, and two hundred fig cakes, and she had it all loaded on some donkeys.

Then she said to her young servants, "Go ahead and pave the way for me. I'm right behind you." But she said nothing to her husband Nabal. 1 Samuel 25:18-19

There is joy for those who deal justly with others and always do what is right. Psalm 106:3

HEROES ACCEPT FULL RESPONSIBILITY

As she was riding her donkey into a mountain ravine, she saw David and his men coming toward her. .. When Abigail saw David, she quickly got off her donkey and bowed low before him. She fell at his feet and said, "I accept all blame in this matter, my lord. Please listen to what I have to say. 1 Samuel 25:20-24

Each of you must take responsibility for doing the creative best you can with your own life.
Galatians 6:5

HEROES CAN BE COMPLETELY REAL

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. "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. 1 Samuel 25:25-26

No more lies, no more pretense. Tell your neighbor the truth. In Christ's body we're all connected to each other, after all. When you lie to others, you end up lying to yourself.
Eph. 4:25

HEROES FOLLOW FAITH OVER FEELINGS

David replied to Abigail, "Praise the LORD, the God of Israel, who has sent you to meet me today! Thank God for your good sense! 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

