

Reflection and Discussion

Sermon Series Pursuit, a study of David
Sermon Title Hospitality
Bible Texts 1 Samuel 25
Date October 29, 2023

CONNECT – Getting to know one another

- Question 1: If you enjoy hosting family, friends or events in your home, what is it about that endeavor that brings you joy?
- Question 2: Can you recall a time when someone’s wise advice prevented you from making a big mistake?
- Question 3: What skills would you use if you were called upon to intervene in a serious conflict between people you know?

EQUIP – Understanding God’s word

David and his men provided protection for Nabal’s extensive herd of sheep along with protection for his shepherds. The season of sheep shearing was considered a season of ingathering and was supposed to be a time of lavish hospitality towards others—including providing remuneration to people such as David and his men. However, Nabal was definitely not so inclined.

- Question 4: How are Nabal and his wife Abigail described in this chapter?
- Question 5: David had moved to the desert of Maon where he and his 600 men have been encamped. What do verses 7, 15-16, and 21 indicate about the services David had provided to Nabal and his shepherds?
- Question 6: Considering the cultural norms of the time, was it right for David to expect some kind of payment from Nabal?
- Question 7: How did Nabal respond to David’s request?
- Question 8: Do you think that Nabal was totally unaware that David and his men were providing him protection? Did he really not know who David was?
- Question 9: Did Nabal have the means to compensate David and his men? (v 36)
- Question 10: Considering Nabal’s response, what does that say about how he viewed his wealth? What might be a more biblical, God-honoring perspective on the ownership or stewardship of earthly possessions?
- Question 11: How does David respond to Nabal’s refusal of his request? (v 13, 20-22)
- Question 12: What do you think of David’s response? What in David’s life might have caused David to react with such a violent plan?
- Question 13: Saul had done much worse to David. Why do you think that he is responding so much differently toward Nabal’s offence?

- Question 14: Abigail makes an appeal to David that meant life or death for Nabal's clan. What steps did she take as she spoke with David. What can we learn from her?
- Question 15: Abigail took action contrary to what her husband had done. Which people benefited from the action she took?
- Question 16: How did Abigail see David's future? (v 28-31)
- Question 17: What did the Lord prevent David from doing through the intervention of Abigail? How do you think this affected David going forward? (v 31-34)
- Question 18: What gave Abigail the confidence to speak to David the way she did?
- Question 19: What do we learn about David by his response to Abigail's appeal?
- Question 20: How does this passage present a picture of the principles found in Romans 12:17-21?

DISCIPLESHIP – Becoming and doing

- Question 21: Will you prayerfully consider how you may see and respond to opportunities to show hospitality? Who has the Lord put in your path that may need your help and support?
- Question 22: In the event of wrongdoing against us or loved ones, how can the example of David and Abigail help us turn from thoughts of wrath and revenge to a more God-pleasing response?
- Question 23: By immediately responding to Abigail's appeal, David's life was redirected and avoided disaster for many. Can you describe an event or time when God confronted you, changed your heart and redirected your life?