



I Samuel

Part #21 –

David – Wilderness Experiences

Support/Defense mechanisms fail, betrayal and abuse imminent

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Introduction

Key Scriptures

- And Samuel died; and all the Israelites were gathered together, and lamented him, and buried him in his house at Ramah. And David arose, and went down to the wilderness of Paran. – 1 Samuel 25:1
- And *there was* a man in Maon, whose possessions *were* in Carmel; and the man was very great, and he had three thousand sheep, and a thousand goats: and he was shearing his sheep in Carmel. – 1 Samuel 25:2
- Now the name of the man *was* Nabal; and the name of his wife Abigail: and *she was* a woman of good understanding, and of a beautiful countenance: but the man was churlish and evil in his doings; and he *was* of the house of Caleb. – 1 Samuel 25:3



Introduction – Cont'd

Key Scriptures

- And David sent out ten young men, and David said unto the young men, Get you up to Carmel, and go to Nabal, and greet him in my name: And thus shall ye say to him that liveth *in prosperity*, Peace *be* both to thee, and peace *be* to thine house, and peace *be* unto all that thou hast. And now I have heard that thou hast shearers: now thy shepherds which were with us, we hurt them not, neither was there ought missing unto them, all the while they were in Carmel. Ask thy young men, and they will shew thee. Wherefore let the young men find favour in thine eyes: for we come in a good day: give, I pray thee, whatsoever cometh to thine hand unto thy servants, and to thy son David. – 1 Samuel 25:5-8



Introduction – Cont'd

Key Scriptures

- And when David's young men came, they spake to Nabal according to all those words in the name of David, and ceased. – 1 Samuel 25:9
- And Nabal answered David's servants, and said, Who *is* David? and who *is* the son of Jesse? there be many servants now a days that break away every man from his master. Shall I then take my bread, and my water, and my flesh that I have killed for my shearers, and give *it* unto men, whom I know not whence they *be*? – 1 Samuel 25:10,11
- And David said unto his men, Gird ye on every man his sword. And they girded on every man his sword; and David also girded on his sword: and there went up after David about four hundred men; and two hundred abode by the stuff. – 1 Samuel 25:13



Introduction – Cont'd

Key Scriptures

- But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, saying, Behold, David sent messengers out of the wilderness to salute our master; and he railed on them. – 1 Samuel 25:14
- Now therefore know and consider what thou wilt do; for evil is determined against our master, and against all his household: for he *is such* a son of Belial, that *a man* cannot speak to him. – 1 Samuel 25:17
- Then Abigail made haste, and took two hundred loaves, and two bottles of wine, and five sheep ready dressed, and five measures of parched *corn*, and an hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid *them* on asses. – 1 Samuel 25:18



Keys

Support/Defense mechanisms fail, betrayal and abuse imminent

- Death of Samuel
- Spiritual support or defense mechanism no longer available
- Churlish - rude in a mean-spirited and surly way
- Speaking to men like Nabal
- Hardness of heart
- Sacrifices on behalf of another not recognized
- Wisdom of Abigail



In this lesson

Support/Defense mechanisms fail, betrayal and abuse imminent

- Solemn days
- Sacrifices ignored
- Settling accounts to requite oneself
- Solid advise
- Sound Judgment
- Sounds of affirmation



Solemn Days

*And Samuel died; and all the Israelites were gathered together, and lamented him, and buried him in his house at Ramah. And David arose, **and went down to the wilderness of Paran.** – 1 Samuel 25:1*

Support/Defense mechanisms fail, betrayal and abuse imminent

- Battery of defense gone - 1 Samuel 19:18 – 24
- Keeping your focus – Jeremiah 17: 5



Sacrifices Ignored

And when David's young men came, they spake to Nabal according to all those words in the name of David, and ceased. – 1 Samuel 25:9

*And Nabal answered David's servants, and said, **Who is David? and who is the son of Jesse?** there be many servants now a days that break away every man from his master. – 1 Samuel 25:10*

The weight of words that wound!

- Greetings with name dropping ignored – 1 Samuel 25:5, 9
- Belittled – 1 Samuel 25:10,11
- Embarrassed – 1 Samuel 25:12
- Rejection – 1 Samuel 25:21-22



Settling accounts

And David said unto his men, Gird ye on every man his sword. And they girded on every man his sword; and David also girded on his sword: and there went up after David about four hundred men; and two hundred abode by the stuff. – 1 Samuel 25:13

Returning Evil for Evil

- Settling accounts with your fist – requiting oneself – 1 Samuel 25:21,22
- Consider that perhaps the right resource was never contacted
- David never heard the testimonies from the men that knew the sacrifices
- Give place to the LORD – Romans 12:19

An action from a churlish leader may sour the pot for all



Solid Advise

Now therefore know and consider what thou wilt do; for evil is determined against our master, and against all his household: for he is such a son of Belial, that a man cannot speak to him. – 1 Samuel 25:17

The young men save the ranch

- Salutation gone sour – 1 Samuel 25:14
- Threat must be appeased – Take off at once towards the threat – 1 Samuel 25:18,19
- Could not afford to inform the threat - her husband Nabal



Sound Judgment

Let not my lord, I pray thee, regard this man of Belial, even Nabal: for as his name is, so is he; Nabal is his name, and folly is with him: but I thine handmaid saw not the young men of my lord, whom thou didst send. – 1 Samuel 25:25

Appeased by gifts and sound judgment

- Surrender stance instead of confrontation – 1 Samuel 25:23
- Accepts full responsibility for the encounter in her home – 1 Samuel 25:24
- Invokes David's reliance on the LORD
- Condemns her husband's reaction and seals the fate of her husband with words – Calls him a worthless fool! – 1 Samuel 25:25, 27:26; 1 Samuel 37,38



Sound Judgment – Cont'd

And now, behold, I know well that thou shalt surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in thine hand. – 1 Samuel 24:21

Offers gifts and pleads for forgiveness

- Declares that she had no prior knowledge of the young men's visit to the ranch
- Offers her gifts – 1 Samuel 25:27
- Asks for forgiveness – 1 Samuel 25:28



Sound of Affirmation

Yet a man is risen to pursue thee, and to seek thy soul: but the soul of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of life with the LORD thy God; and the souls of thine enemies, them shall he sling out, as out of the middle of a sling. – 1 Samuel 25:29

Sweet words in the wilderness

- Assures David of the LORD's safety – 1 Samuel 25:29
- Assures David of the Throne – 1 Samuel 25:30
- Restrains the shedding causeless blood – 1 Samuel 25:31
- Asks David to wait upon the LORD for His judgment – 1 Samuel 25:39
- David rewards sound wisdom – Ask for Abigail in marriage – 1 Samuel 25:41-42



Summary

Ziglag – Home of David and his men burnt down, wives and children taken captive



Next Week

Bootcamp Continues! – David in preparation in the classroom of the wilderness continues