

Living Wisely

Faith Heroes – Part 4

Life Church St. Louis – September 29, 2019

Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Message Videos – www.lcstl.org/messages

1 Timothy 4:12 (ESV) Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.

1 Corinthians 10:11 (ESV) Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come.

Proverbs 14:16 (ESV) One who is wise is cautious and turns away from evil, but a fool is reckless and careless.

Proverbs 1:7 (ESV) The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Psalms 53:1 (ESV) The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, doing abominable iniquity; there is none who does good.

1. The greed of a _____ man

1 Samuel 25:2-3a (ESV) And there was a man in Maon whose business was in Carmel. The man was very rich; he had three thousand sheep and a thousand goats. He was shearing his sheep in Carmel. Now the name of the man was Nabal, and the name of his wife Abigail. The woman was discerning and beautiful, but the man was harsh and badly behaved;

1 Samuel 25:11 (ESV) Shall I take my bread and my water and my meat that I have killed for my shearers and give it to men who come from I do not know where?"

1 Samuel 25:13 (ESV) And David said to his men, "Every man strap on his sword!" And every man of them strapped on his sword. David also strapped on his sword. And about four hundred men went up after David, while two hundred remained with the baggage.

1 Samuel 25:17 (ESV) Now therefore know this and consider what you should do, for harm is determined against our master and against all his house, and he is such a worthless man that one cannot speak to him."

2. The generosity of a _____ woman

1 Samuel 25:18 (ESV) Then Abigail made haste and took two hundred loaves and two skins of wine and five sheep already prepared and five seahs of parched grain and a hundred clusters of raisins and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid them on donkeys.

1 Samuel 25:26 (ESV) Now then, my lord, as the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, because the LORD has restrained you from bloodguilt and from saving with your own hand, now then let your enemies and those who seek to do evil to my lord be as Nabal.

1 Samuel 25:32-33 (ESV) And David said to Abigail, "Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who sent you this day to meet me! Blessed be your discretion, and blessed be you, who have kept me this day from bloodguilt and from working salvation with my own hand!"

3. _____ of wisdom and foolishness

3A. Foolishness _____

1 Samuel 25:37-38 (ESV) In the morning, when the wine had gone out of Nabal, his wife told him these things, and his heart died within him, and he became as a stone. And about ten days later the LORD struck Nabal, and he died.

1 Samuel 25:39a (ESV) When David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, "Blessed be the LORD who has avenged the insult I received at the hand of Nabal, and has kept back his servant from wrongdoing. The LORD has returned the evil of Nabal on his own head."

3B. Wisdom _____

1 Samuel 25:39b, 42 (ESV) Then David sent and spoke to Abigail, to take her as his wife. ... And Abigail hurried and rose and mounted a donkey, and her five young women attended her. She followed the messengers of David and became his wife.

Action Plan for This Week

- Have a daily time of Bible reading & prayer (1 Samuel 25)
 - Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun

- Invite a friend to the service next Sunday.

- How will I obey God's Word this week? _____

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Intro. What is the purpose of examples in the Bible (1 Timothy 4:12, 1 Corinthians 10:11)?

Intro. What are some of the fundamental differences between a wise person and a fool (Proverbs 14:16)?

Intro. Where does true wisdom come from (Proverbs 1:7)?

Intro. In what ways is foolishness a spiritual issue (Psalm 53:1)?

1A. How are Nabal's attitudes and actions characteristic of a fool (1 Samuel 25:2-3, 10-11)?

1B. Do you think David's response to Nabal's insult was foolish or wise (1 Samuel 25:13)? Why?

1C. What does Nabal's servant's response in 1 Samuel 25:14-17 tell us about the differences between Nabal and Abigail?

1D. In what ways are wisdom or foolishness shown when someone has a need or asks for help?

2A. What does Abigail's immediate response tell us about her wisdom (1 Samuel 25:18)?

2B. What aspects of wisdom did Abigail follow in her first words with David (1 Samuel 25:23-26)?

2C. What was the purpose of Abigail's reference to David's future in her words (1 Samuel 25:27-31)?

2D. How was David's response to Abigail a reflection both of her wisdom and David's change of heart (1 Samuel 25:32-35)?

2E. What principles from Abigail's approach to David could you use in being a peacemaker in conflict?

3A. How did Nabal's own foolish actions lead to God's judgement (1 Samuel 25:36-38)?

3B. What principle concerning revenge can we learn from David (1 Samuel 25:39a)?

3C. How did Abigail's wisdom open up a better future for her (1 Samuel 25:39b-42)?

3D. What sources of wisdom could you pursue to grow wiser in your life?