**A Look at Abigail: A Woman Who Wisely Handled a Family Crisis**

**by**

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1. Introduction.
2. An important topic because women face crises.
3. An ungodly husband often makes things worse.
4. The Old Testament examples are helpful to us. Romans 15:4 1 Cor. 10:11
5. The characters in the story.
6. Abigail’s description.
7. She is discerning. 1 Sam. 25:3, 33
8. She is beautiful. 1 Peter 3:4
9. Nabal’s description.
10. He is harsh. 1 Samuel 25:14
11. He is badly behaved. Romans 1:18 Romans 3:18 Psalm 45:6-7a
12. A worthless man. 1 Sam. 25:17
13. David’s description.
14. He acts hastily. 1 Samuel 25:13
15. He is bent on revenge. 1 Samuel 2:33
16. Abigail faces a great family crisis. 1 Samuel 25:2-13
17. David had been protecting her family’s flocks and asked for provisions. V. 4-8
18. It was customary to share in a time of celebration.
19. David was anointed by God to be the future king. 1 Samuel 16:12-13
20. David was the leader of a band of men who are fleeing from King Saul.
21. The situation escalates. V. 9-17
22. Nabal insults David’s servants by refusing hospitality. V. 9-11 Psalm 2
23. David becomes enraged. V. 12-13, 21-22
24. Abigail is caught between two angry men. V. 14-17
25. Abigail demonstrates wisdom. V. 18-31
26. She prepares to meet David, bringing food. V. 18-20
27. She does not inform her husband. V. 19
28. Nabal is a scoffer. Proverbs 9:7-8
29. She probably realizes that her husband is not open to reason or appeal.
30. Abigail appeals to David. V. 23-31
31. She is an example of how to confront a person in authority. Galatians 6:1-2 Proverbs 25:15 Proverbs 15:1 Genesis 2:24
32. Abigail seeks to turn David from his sin by appealing to his conscience. V. 26-28, 31a
33. She turns David’s focus back to the Lord and his promises. v. 29-31
34. David listens to Abigail and is grateful for her intervention. V. 32-35
35. David blesses Abigail for her discretion. V. 32-34, 39a Romans 12:19-21
36. David obeys Abigail! V. 35
37. Abigail chooses the right time to tell her husband what she has done. V. 36-39
38. She determined that Nabal had a right to know.
39. She waited to inform her husband. 1 Samuel 25:36-37 Esther 5:2-7, 7:1-4 Proverbs 25:11 Proverbs 15:23

1. God blesses Abigail. V. 39b-42
2. Abigail again acts humbly. V. 41
3. She again hurries. V.42
4. When might a woman need to follow Abigail’s example?
5. There are limits to human authority. Acts 5:29
6. To keep the family safe from an angry (or drunk) husband.
7. We are free to escape suffering—including abuse. Matthew 2:13-14, 12:14-15, John 8:59, 10:31-39, Acts 9:22ff, 14:5ff
8. Having a “martyr-complex” is unbiblical.
9. To protect the family from financial ruin.
10. The wife should confront her husband’s sin. Matthew 18:21ff, Galatians 6:1
11. This story makes us think of Christ.
12. Jesus offers peace. V. 5-6
13. Jesus took the blame for our guilt. V. 24 2 Corinthians 5:21 Isaiah 53:4
14. Abigail has faith that David, the Lord’s anointed, will soon reign. V. 30-31
15. Like the thief of the cross. Luke 23:42-43
16. Even when others (like Nabal) did not see David as a king.
17. Our response to Jesus should be like Abigail, not Nabal.
18. Conclusion.
19. Abigail maintained her faith in God while in a difficult marriage. She believed David was the Lord’s anointed. 2 Samuel 25:28, 30 Proverbs 9:10a
20. Abigail pictures Christ, who took our sin upon himself. 1 Samuel 25:24
21. Christ comes to us. We should receive Him. John 1:12
22. Remember, the Lord will judge. Romans 2:5
23. Know that “God’s purpose is always to glorify Himself.” Colossians 1:16d Romans 11:36