



Sermon Discussion Guide for Groups

"Abigail" | The Story of Us series

Preached by Dr. Daniel Grothe
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"A gentle answer deflects anger, but harsh words make tempers flare."

P R O V E R B S 1 5 : 1 N L T

Summary

Have someone from your group read the following summary aloud.

Have you ever been in a situation where you just knew things were about to go off the rails—where tempers were flaring, and someone needed to step in before it all went south? That's exactly what happened in 1 Samuel 25.

This weekend, Dr. Daniel Grothe walked us through the incredible story of a strong, wise, and quick-thinking woman saving the day. David, the future king, was furious—ready to take revenge on a man named Nabal, who had insulted and disrespected him. Nabal, quite literally, was a fool. But his wife, Abigail? She was the complete opposite—gracious, discerning, and courageous. She intercepted David before he could make a terrible mistake, offering him gifts, wisdom, and a reminder of who he truly was.

Because of her boldness and emotional intelligence, disaster was avoided, and David's story stayed on the right track.

As we dive into this story together, let's ask ourselves: How can we become the kind of people who step into tough moments with wisdom and grace? How can we bring peace instead of adding fuel to the fire? And what does it look like to remind others (and ourselves) of who God has called us to be? Let's dig in!

Opening Prayer

Open your session in prayer, using the words below or your own.

“Heavenly Father, as we gather in your presence today, we quiet our hearts before you. Thank you for the gift of your Word, which speaks truth across generations and into our lives right now. As we lean into Abigail’s story, open our eyes to see beyond the words on the page—help us to hear your voice, to sense your guidance, and to recognize the ways you are shaping us through this lesson.

“Lord, make us humble learners. Soften any pride or distraction in us so that we can fully receive what you want to teach us. Show us where we need to grow in wisdom, where we can be peacemakers in our own relationships, and how we might step into difficult moments with grace rather than reacting in frustration or fear. In Jesus’ holy name, Amen.”

Getting Going

Share about a time when someone stepped in to help prevent a conflict or misunderstanding between you and another person. What was the outcome?

Discussion Questions

Answer as many of the following questions as time and interest permit.

1. What role does humility play in resolving conflicts?
2. How can we develop better emotional intelligence in dealing with others?
3. What does this story teach us about the importance of timing in intervention?
4. How does Abigail's example point us to Christ?
5. What can we learn from David's willingness to listen to Abigail?
6. What are a few practical ways that we can cultivate more joy in our relationships and interactions with others?

Making It Personal

Take the opportunity noted below to apply this week’s sermon to your everyday life.

This week, identify a situation where you can be an “Abigail”—someone who brings peace, wisdom, and joy into a potentially difficult situation. Practice stepping in with humility and emotional intelligence to help prevent or resolve conflict.

Key Takeaways

Commit to memory one point from the message before you dismiss.

Which of these points will you carry with you this week?

- › Timely intercession can prevent destructive outcomes.
- › Joy and humility are powerful tools in conflict resolution.
- › Being willing to listen to godly counsel can save us from poor decisions.
- › Christ-like intervention requires both courage and humility.

Closing Prayer

Have someone from your group close your time in prayer.

“Heavenly Father, thank you for the example of Abigail and how she points us to Jesus. Help us to be people who bring your peace, joy, and wisdom into difficult situations by giving us the courage to intervene when needed and the humility to listen when others speak truth into our lives.

“Make us more like you in how we steward our relationships and manage conflict whenever it surfaces in our lives. In Jesus' name, Amen.”

Key Passage | 1 Samuel 25:23-27 NIV

These verses were highlighted during this week's sermon and appear here for your reference.

When Abigail saw David, she quickly got off her donkey and bowed down before David with her face to the ground. She fell at his feet and said: “Pardon your servant, my lord, and let me speak to you; hear what your servant has to say.

Please pay no attention, my lord, to that wicked man Nabal. He is just like his name—his name means Fool, and folly goes with him. And as for me, your servant, I did not see the men my lord sent.

And now, my lord, as surely as the Lord your God lives and as you live, since the Lord has kept you from bloodshed and from avenging yourself with your own hands, may your enemies and all who are intent on harming my lord be like Nabal. And let this gift, which your servant has brought to my lord, be given to the men who follow you.

Passages for Further Study

- › 1 Samuel 25:3
- › 1 Samuel 25:18-19
- › 1 Samuel 25:32-33