

Group/Individual Study

Series: "This is Us" - Abigail

Passages: 1Samuel 25

REFLECT on the message heard Sunday, 8/27

1. Read 1 Samuel Chapter 25. It's a story about: a godly man, David, who was about to make a big mistake; a wise woman named Abigail through whom God protected David from this big mistake; and a foolish man, Nabal, who provoked the whole situation through his own foolishness and pride. What strikes you as you read this story?
2. The name "Nabal" literally means "fool" in the original language. What specific traits of foolishness do you see in Nabal in these verses? Are there other traits of foolishness that you've observed in life beyond those seen in this chapter?
3. The Bible says that God considered David "a man after God's own heart," and yet he was about to make a huge mistake. Even the wisest people are vulnerable to big mistakes that compromise our character and go against what we believe. How have you seen God use an "Abigail" to save you from big mistakes before? Have you ever been "an Abigail" that God used to turn someone away from a harmful path?
4. Both Nabal and David were headed towards doing stupid things. David listened to correction while Nabal never did. How good are you to listen to correction or criticism without getting defensive? What role do you think "correctability" plays in a healthy Christian life? How can you become more pliable in God's hand for His correction?
5. Sometimes we are the "Abigails" in the lives of others: those God uses to speak truth to them in an effort to save them from harmful paths. What can you do in terms of attitude and tone to make your input easier for someone to receive? How do people find the courage and love to speak corrective truth to others for Jesus' sake?
6. In truth we've all responded at times like Nabal when we were on bad paths -- and at other times we've responded like David to receive life-giving correction. What habits help you receive God's correction more easily? Who are the "Abigails" in your life who know you well enough and love you deeply enough to speak up when you are on a dangerous path?