

DAVID – Developing a Heart for God

Lesson 5-6: Secure in the Lord and Finding Strength in the Lord

Women in the Word Scripture Reference Notes – October 13, 2026

Review

Lessons 1 & 2

- God looks at the heart, not outward things.
- David and Goliath story reminds us how Jesus came to conquer sin and death.

Lesson 3

- David and Johnathan's friendship is an example of God's commitment to you and me.

Lesson 4

- Bad things happen to good people, and God uses hardship for good. Jesus was a perfect man and yet He was beaten and crucified which brought about salvation for all.

Lesson 5

David, Nabal and Abigail – I Samuel 25:1-8

Nabal was rich, but was a fool. He was self-centered, harsh, and badly behaved.

Abigail was discerning and beautiful.

David's men were sent and asked for provisions for the feast. David and his men had been protecting Nabal's flocks and shepherds in Carmel.

Nabal's selfish response – I Samuel 25:9-11

He acts as if he does not know who David is. He would absolutely know who David is. Nabal was a stingy man.

David's anger – I Samuel 25:12-13

Nabal had disrespected him. Now David was the one planning something in his own strength like Saul had done in chapter 24.

Abigail makes a plan – I Samuel 25:14-22

Abigail heard of her husband's folly and took action. She decisively made a plan and headed to defuse David. It seems like she may have been familiar with defusing a man's anger.

Abigail's humility and respect to David – 1 Samuel 25:23-31

Abigail is masterful with her words. She did not scold David, or talk down to him.

Romans 12:14-21 *"Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation. Never repay evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all people. If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all people. Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written: 'Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,' says the Lord. 'But if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."*

Abigail protected her foolish husband. She was treating him as unto the Lord.

Ephesians 5:22 *"Wives, subject yourselves to your own husbands, as to the Lord."*

Sometimes God is using that unreasonable person in your life to change YOU!

How can you learn to love unconditionally without an unreasonable person that you need to love? How can you learn to give grace unless there is someone who needs your grace? How do you learn forgiveness without a person who you need to forgive?

God's heart toward us is gracious and forgiving; He is merciful and loving.

Romans 5:8 *"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."*

Ephesians 2:4-5 *"But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved."* (ESV)

Isaiah 53:6 *"All of us, like sheep, have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way; But the Lord has caused the wrongdoing of us all To fall on Him."*

1 John 4:10 *"In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins."*

Psalms 103:8 *"The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love."* (ESV)

David humbles himself – 1 Samuel 25:32-35

David was humbled by her words and he knew that his plans were wrong.

Proverbs 15:1 *“A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.”* (ESV)

So often we tell people (mostly husbands and children) what they need to hear but we do it in an unloving way, demeaning, critical.

God took care of Nabal – 1 Samuel 25:36-38

It was not God’s will for David to take out Nabal. God was showing His faithfulness to David and also to Abigail. God’s timing was perfect.

David now has 3 wives: Michal (Saul’s daughter), Ahinoam, and Abigail – 1 Samuel 25:39-44

This is a violation of the law.

Deuteronomy 17:17a *“And he shall not acquire many wives for himself, lest his heart turn away,”* (ESV)

Permitting a practice in the OT does not mean God approved of it, just as Moses permitted divorce because of the hardness of heart rather than as a divine ideal. Polygamy was a widespread ancient custom that God temporarily tolerated within a fallen society.

Lesson 6

Ziklag burned and hostages taken – 1 Samuel 30:1-6

David and his men are devastated! His men talk of stoning David.

David encourages himself in the Lord.

Psalm 103

John 17:11-26

David wisely asks God – 1 Samuel 30:7-10

God gives David the okay to go and pursue the raiders.

They found an Egyptian – 1 Samuel 30:11-15

God provided intelligence through an Egyptian who had fallen ill and was left behind by the band of raiders.

God is faithful to David and David is growing in his trust and dependence on God through these difficult things!!!

Wives and Children rescued – 1 Samuel 30:18-20

David was able to take back all the people and everything that had been taken

An argument over the spoils – 1 Samuel 30:21-31

David shares the spoils with the two hundred men who were left behind. He also shared the spoils with his friends and elders of Judah.

Conclusion

What have we learned about God from these two stories?

1. God is faithful to His promises to David and to us. What He says about us is true of us because of Him, not because of our faithfulness.
2. God is patient as David learns to trust Him. Same for us.
3. God saves David from a poor decision this time. God knows best in each situation.
4. God knows how to use unreasonable people and hardships to conform us to the image of Christ.
5. God is after relationship with us and has made us His children by His own plan.
6. God is sovereign.
7. God is love.
8. God is just.

Next Week – October 20
Lessons 7 & 8 – God's Wrath & Blessing and God's Promise to David