

Underdog: Under God – Abigail

1 Samuel 25

As a group/individually, read the story of Abigail in 1 Samuel 25. Follow along on the outline below and then answer the application questions below in red.

3 Characters:

- **David – the king elect on the run**
- **Nabal – the harsh ranch owner**
- **Abigail – the harsh ranch owner’s wife, our underdog**

3 Conflicts:

- **David & his men** – “While David was in the desert, he heard that Nabal was shearing sheep. So he sent ten young men and said to them, ‘Go up to Nabal at Carmel and greet him in my name.’” (vv. 4-5)

David left Gath and escaped to the cave of Adullam...All those who were in distress or in debt or discontented gathered around him, and he became their leader. About four hundred men were with him. (1 Samuel 22:1a, 2)

- **Abigail and Nabal** – “May my lord pay no attention to that wicked man Nabal. He is just like his name – his name is Fool, and folly goes with him.” (1 Samuel 25:25a)
- **David and Nabal** – “Say to him: ‘Long life to you! Good health to you and your household! And good health to all that is yours! Now I hear that it is sheep-shearing time. When your shepherds were with us, we did not mistreat them, and the whole time they were at Carmel nothing of theirs was missing. Ask your own servants and they will tell you. Therefore be favorable toward my young men, since we come at a festive time. Please give your servants and your Son David whatever you can find for them.’ ...Then they waited.” (vv. 6-8, 9b)

Nabal answered David’s servants, “Who is this David? Who is this son of Jesse?” ...David said to his men, “Put on your swords!” So they put on their swords, and David put on his. (vv. 10a, 13a)

3 Character Qualities:

- **Discernment** - Who in your life models discernment? Do you tend to act more out of emotion or your head? Who of your close family/friends do you have to make sure you are acting correctly?
- **Courage** - who would you allow to step in the gap for you when you are running down the wrong path? To whom are you that cool hand on their hot head when they need it? Last, to whom do you need a bit of courage to stand up to and/or speak truth, or the Gospel?
- **Kingdom Minded** – How do you discern whether you are doing the will of God or the will of yourself? How many times in the recent past have you used the words, “because I deserve it?” Consider Abigail, despite her circumstances she went to work for God. Can you say you are doing the same? What is one thing in your life that, despite your circumstances/predicament, you can still go to work for God, knowing that he will use it for his kingdom?

Of the questions above, which has God laid on your heart most to pray about?