

SERMON GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Check out your notes from this week's sermon. What stood out?
Were you challenged? Anything you found difficult or disagreed with?

INTRO QUESTION

Brad commented on the restraint of David in the cave in chapter 24, but in chapter 25, he is the one who needs to be restrained. Have there been times in your life where you did the right thing, only to follow that success with what would have been a failure if someone hadn't intervened?

DIGGING INTO THE TEXT - 1 Samuel 25:1-17

"God's work may begin with a man but it never ends with one man" – Brad Clouse

Samuel was a major spiritual leader and yet his death only gets one verse and almost no recorded emotional reaction. Why do you think the writer gives so little attention to it? What does that say about life, leadership, or even legacy?

What two things were noted about Abigail when she was introduced in the narrative (1 Sam 25:3)?

What was noted about Nabal when he was introduced in the narrative (1 Sam 25:3)?

When David got word back about Nabal's response to his request what did David do? How do Nabal's men respond?

TAKEAWAYS

YOUR LABOR IN THE LORD IS NOT IN VAIN

2 Kings 5:1-3; Acts 23:16; 1 Corinthians 15:58

Who is someone in your life that is/was "just a servant" but made a huge spiritual impact?

How do you respond when your work for the Lord feels pointless or unfruitful?

Do you measure your ministry by faithfulness or visibility?

How are you preparing for ministry that may outlive you but not include you?

Have you ever been so frustrated in ministry that you were tempted to quit?

Are you tempted to measure the success of your calling by moments of public victory, or by daily obedience?

THE BEST OF MEN ARE MEN AT BEST

Jeremiah 17:9; Psalm 139; 1 Peter 2:21-25

What does it say about our need for God's guidance and grace in our lives that David was so careful not to take matters into his own hands against Saul in 1 Samuel 24 but so willing to do so with Nabal?

We see Nabal's hard-headed nature revealed in 1 Samuel 25:17. Why do you think it's so hard for many of us to admit we're wrong and go another direction? What makes it a challenge for you personally?

When did you last confess that you were the the problem? Not your situation, not the people around you, just you?

Does the reality of David's imperfection draw your eyes to the perfection of Christ?