**1 Samuel 25**

**Main: A fool will not listen to the wise -OR-**

**What a fool believes; no wise man has the power to reason away**

**1 Samuel 25:1**

**Israel had been blessed for years through Samuel. Now, they will be blessed through David. The passing of the torch; Judges to Kings.**

**1 Samuel 25:2-3**

**Chapters 24 and 26 are mirror images of one another.**

**Sandwiched in-between is Ch. 25**

**One of the unifying themes is dealing with fools.**

**David stands out. But, so does Abigail.**

**Nabal, whose name means “fool’, is a wealthy man who stands in contrast to his wife, Abigail. However, he is much like Saul. Both are fools.**

**Abigail is clearly a woman of strength and commitment.**

**1 Samuel 25:4-9**

**6 Ryrie = “Say to him…live a long life”**

**8 A feast day – Celebrate prosperity = a pay day!**

**David’s approach to Nabal was understandable.**

* **He and his men had ensured Nabal would suffer no loss either of his animals nor his men.**
* **What David gave was much more than what he asked.**

**1 Samuel 25:10-11**

**Nabal’s said far more than, “No”.**

* **His words were very disrespectful and demeaning…and he knew it.**
* **It’s not a good idea to insult a man with a sword!**

**11 Nabal not only wouldn’t pay, he acted like he didn’t know David (he could have verified it with the men easily)**

**1 Samuel 25:12-13**

**David took the words as intended and saw them as a challenge to his integrity and honor.**

* **David also seemed to take them as a challenge to his manhood.**
* **Whatever the case, Nabal threw down and David took the challenge.**

**1 Samuel 25:14-31**

**14 (Ryrie) Reviled = Yelled at, screamed at**

**14 God may call us to suffer in marriage**

**Abigail’s brilliant words along with the brilliant manner in which she said them is a classic example of Proverbs 15:1 “A soft answer turns away wrath”**

**What a wise, godly woman! And, does David ever notice!**

**17 You simply can reason/talk with, some people**

**18 Abigail knew there was trouble**

**23 Abigail protects David from sin**

**25 A spouse can ruin you or protect you**

**29 (Ryrie) Could be translated “Should a man rise to pursue you and to seek your life, then the life of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of the living”**

**The figure is taken from the custom of binging valuables in a bundle to protect them from injury. God cares for his own as a man does his treasure.”**

**31 (Ryrie) “This isn’t a good idea for you”**



**Our first response to our differences with our spouse should not be what might be the last response.**

**If we jump to the last response, we never give our spouses time to grow and fail to recognize our own set of issues we bring to the table - 1 Pet. 3:1-7**

**1 Samuel 25:32-37**

**Both what Abigail said and the way she presented herself and her words mattered.**

**We can learn a lot from Abigail about dealing with fools and those who act foolishly.**

**Abigail gave herself to God’s purposes.**

* **God vindicated her and also protected David through her wisdom.**

**37 Stroke = Paralyzed**

**Once again, God intends for David (and us!) to learn that vengeance is His and He will repay.**

**Forgiveness instead of paying people back for wrong is better because it:**

* **Obeys the Lord**
* **Honors the fact that it is God’s right**
* **Gives us the freedom that comes from forgiving**
* **Trusts that the Lord will properly take care of wrongs committed**

**Anger is simply not a better solution than forgiveness.**

**A person’s wisdom yields patience;  
    it is to one’s glory to overlook an offense.**

**Prov. 19:11**

**We must always remember the kind of people we are dealing with!**

**Answer a fool according to his folly lest he be wise in his own eyes;**

**Do not answer a fool according to his folly lest you be like him**

**Prov. 28:4-5**

**While we should never lower ourselves to the speech and lifestyle of a fool,**

**we should also seek to respond in a way that exposes to him his foolishness.**

**1 Samuel 25:38-44**

**38 Foolishness has its own reward**

**Just as the book opened, David now reverts to polygamy. There was absolutely no good reason for this. Why??**

**A lack of satisfaction causes many a heartache. Now, David acts like a fool.**

**43 Back to chapter one: Not a good idea**

**Proverbs 19:14**

**As great as David is, he also is human and his humanity is showing.**

**David’s problem with family in general and women in particular will haunt him throughout his life, as will his issues with vengeance.**

**No matter how spiritual, no matter how mature we become, we always have issues to address.**

**This should provoke us to humility and being wise enough to listen to the wise (9:12; 13:20)**