

God Intervenes: The Life of David – Part 5 2/24/19

Day 1

A certain man in Maon, who had property there at Carmel, was very wealthy. He had a thousand goats and three thousand sheep, which he was shearing in Carmel. His name was Nabal and his wife's name was Abigail. She was an intelligent and beautiful woman, but her husband was surly and mean in his dealings—he was a Calebite. -1 Samuel 25:2,3

In chapter 25, we are introduced to two new characters. Fill in the name and description of each character in 25:3.

1.

2.

“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 men, since we come at a festive time. Please give your servants and your son David whatever you can find for them.” -1 Samuel 25: 7,8

3. What does David send his men to request from Nabal?

4. Why does David expect Nabal to fulfill his request (25:7–8, 14–16)?

5. Fill in the blanks from 25:11. (you'll need your Bible)

“Shall I take _____ bread and _____ water and _____ meat that I have killed for shearers and give it to men who come from I do not know where?”

6. What does Nabal's answer to David's request expose about Nabal's character?

7. Read David's response (25:12–13) and note the following:

Number of times the word “sword” appears

Number of men David takes with him

What is David determined to do?

Day 2

Yesterday David was determined to deal violently with Nabal for refusing to help out David and His men.

1. Contrast David's intention with his words and actions in 17:47 and 24:8–13.
2. Do you think that his decision to deal violently with Nabal is how God expects His chosen king to act?
3. In 25:18–31, Abigail implements a plan to stop David from killing Nabal and all the men in Nabal's household.
4. Identify the three main parts of her plan:

PART ONE – What does Abigail bring David (25:18, 27)?

PART TWO – What does Abigail warn David against (25:26)?

PART THREE – What does Abigail remind David of (25:28–31)?

5. By the end of chapter 25, how many wives does David have?
6. Is this cause for concern or no big deal? Look at Deuteronomy 17:16–17 to help with your answer.

According to the verses:

WHO RESTRAINED DAVID?	WHAT WAS DAVID RESTRAINED FROM?
25:26	
25:33	
25:34	
25:39	

Day 3

Once again, David is pursued by Saul. But a new helper enters the scene, Abishai the son of Zeruiah. When David and Abishai arrive at Saul's camp.

So David and Abishai went to the army by night, and there was Saul, lying asleep inside the camp with his spear stuck in the ground near his head. Abner and the soldiers were lying around him. Abishai said to David, "Today God has delivered your enemy into your hands. Now let me pin him to the ground with one thrust of the spear; I won't strike him twice." But David said to Abishai, "Don't destroy him! Who can lay a hand on the Lord's anointed and be guiltless? As surely as the Lord lives," he said, "the Lord himself will strike him, or his time will come and he will die, or he will go into battle and perish. But the Lord forbid that I should lay a hand on the Lord's anointed. Now get the spear and water jug that are near his head, and let's go."

1. They both develop a plan of action. Summarize each man's plan according to the verses above(26:7–11):

Abishai-

David-

2. In 26:10, what are the three different scenarios David imagines for Saul's death?
3. What lesson has David learned from the outcome of his run-in with Nabal (25:36–39)?

David takes Saul's spear as proof that he was in his pursuer's camp. The spear is also a symbol of something else. Look up 18:10–11, 20:33 and 22:6

4. give your best guess as to what Saul's spear symbolizes.
5. This story should feel very familiar. If you have time, grab your Bible and match the major elements of the first time David spares Saul's life in chapters 24 to the correct reference in chapter 26's account:

Saul is vulnerable (24:3)	(_____)
David's men urge him to strike (24:4)	(_____)
David acquires a symbolic object (24:4b)	(_____)
David refuses to harm Saul, the Lord's anointed (24:5–6)	(_____)
David pleads his case to Saul (24:8–15)	(_____)
Saul is penitent (24:17–18)	(_____)
David responds (24:21–22)	(_____)
Saul speaks a blessing over David (24:19–20)	(_____)
David and Saul part ways (24:22)	(_____)

Day 4

Then Saul said, "I have sinned. Come back, David my son. Because you considered my life precious today, I will not try to harm you again. Surely I have acted like a fool and have been terribly wrong." - 1 Samuel 26: 21,22

1. Considering Saul's previous confession in chapter 24, does David have a reason to trust Saul to keep to his word this time around?

The Lord rewards everyone for their righteousness and faithfulness. The Lord delivered you into my hands today, but I would not lay a hand on the Lord's anointed. 24 As surely as I valued your life today, so may the Lord value my life and deliver me from all trouble." - 1 Samuel 26: 23,24

2. Who does David choose to trust instead?

3. Fill in the blanks from 27:1 (You'll need your Bible for this one)

Then David _____ in _____, "Now I shall perish one day by the hand of Saul. There is _____ for me than that I should escape to the land of the Philistines. Then Saul will despair of seeking me any longer within the borders of Israel, and I shall escape out of his hand."

Now look at Psalm 42:5 and contrast it with David's words in 27:1.

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

4. Which approach to processing the legitimate concerns of life is worthy of emulation?

5. Thoughts from today?

Day 5

Now David and his men went up and made raids against the Geshurites, the Girzites, and the Amalekites, for these were the inhabitants of the land from of old, as far as Shur, to the land of Egypt. And David would strike the land and would leave neither man nor woman alive, but would take away the sheep, the oxen, the donkeys, the camels, and the garments, and come back to Achish. When Achish asked, "Where have you made a raid today?" David would say, "Against the Negeb of Judah," or, "Against the Negeb of the Jerahmeelites," or, "Against the Negeb of the Kenites." -1 Samuel 27: 8-10

1. While David is in Philistia, he conducts raids in the surrounding areas. Fill in the chart below with the three areas David actually raids and then fill in the three he reports to Achish that he raids (27:8–10)

Actual	Report

According to Exodus 17:8–16 the Amalekites, are historical enemies of the Jewish people

But all Israel and Judah loved David, for he went out and came in before them. -1 Samuel 18:16.

David deceives Achish and continuously fights Enemies of his own people instead of the people he tells Achish he is fighting.

This isn't the first time we have seen Achish, the king of Gath. Previously David was able to fool Achish into believing that he was insane and more than likely saved his own life that way. From his previous interactions, David has reason to believe he can successfully dupe Achish (21:10–15).

In those days the Philistines gathered their forces for war, to fight against Israel. And Achish said to David, "Understand that you and your men are to go out with me in the army." 2 David said to Achish, "Very well, you shall know what your servant can do." And Achish said to David, "Very well, I will make you my bodyguard for life. 1 Samuel 28:1,2

David's ruse may have been too convincing. What predicament does David find himself in after having won Achish's trust?