

PEFC Weekly Family & Small Group Study Guide

July 31, 2022

Paynesville Evangelical Free Church
God Uses Ordinary People to Build His Kingdom
God's Intervention
I Samuel 25



Big Idea

God Proves Faithful in Moving His Redemptive Plan Forward & Does Not Need Our Intervention!

1. A Disciple is not to seek revenge on those who do him wrong.
2. God uses faithful people to intervene in unique and divine ways.
3. God's timing and intervention are always in his time and on his terms.

Introduction

Think of a time when someone wronged or hurt you. How did you respond? Do you feel like you left room for God's justice or took matters into your own hands?

Bible Study Questions

If you haven't already, skim through I Samuel 25.

Have someone read I Samuel 25:2-13. Who are the main characters? What do we learn about them from the text? What does Nabal's actions reveal about his heart? Is David justified by his actions? Why or why not? How do we sometimes justify revenge? Give an example.

Read verses 14-31. How does Abigail respond when the servants approach her? What was David's justification for his anger (vs 21)? In what ways does Abigail serve as an agent of peace?

What is Abigail's appeal to David & What does she remind David of (vs 26 - 31)? How does reminding David to consider The LORD and his plans & actions change his perspective? What danger does she warn him of (vs31)? How might this be relevant to us when we face a temptation to avenge?

Read verses 32-42. How does David respond to Abigail? Who does David see as being the facilitator of his correction (vs 32, 34)? What does this tell us of David's heart?

How does Nabal respond to Abigail's news? Why? Why do you think the story emphasizes that the LORD struck Nabal (vs38)? What is David's reaction to the news? What two things did David see God's hand in concerning his life (vs 39)? Give an example of how God has (or could) do this in our life in a contemporary situation.

Compare and contrast this story with the stories of David sparing Saul's life (chapters 24 & 26). Why might this story be placed right between them? What do we learn about God's sovereignty, his mercy & justice? How might we see the gospel in light of these stories?

Next Steps

Identify the situation in your life that you feel someone hurt you. Trust and accept that God will bring about his justice in his time through his circumstances.

Reflect on a way that God could use you as an agent of peace.

Read I Corinthians 1:18-31 and consider how God works in surprising ways compared to the world around us.

Prayer

Thank God for mercy and justice. Share life needs within your group and pray for one another. Remember that prayer requests need to remain confidential and not be repeated outside your group without permission.