

2. From the facts given in the story, do you think David's request of Nabal is reasonable? Why or why not?

8

Abigail

A Level-Headed Woman

1 Samuel 25:2-44

How do you act in times of crisis? The easiest way out is to hope that someone else will act! It takes courage to believe that what you do will solve the crisis. It also demands insight into the situation at hand.

GROUP DISCUSSION. How would you define a fool? Can a fool help being a fool?

PERSONAL REFLECTION. Everyone does something foolish at some time or other. How do you handle your foolish mistakes?

The heroine in this study is a woman named Abigail, whose rich husband is a fool. (The biblical story doesn't mince words.) Despite the cultural restrictions on women in her day, Abigail acts courageously and with insight that prevents a massacre. *Read 1 Samuel 25:2-44.*

1. As this story begins, what is the life situation of the major characters in the story?

3. How does Nabal's information about David differ from that of the servants and Abigail?

4. How do the servants regard Abigail (vv. 14-17)?

5. How does Abigail demonstrate resourcefulness, and what risks does she take (vv. 18-31)?

6. How do you decide when you should be responsible to rescue others from their foolishness?

7. What does Abigail understand about the plan of God in David's life (vv. 28-31)?

8. What phrases and word choices demonstrate Abigail's intelligence and persuasiveness?

9. Who does Abigail rescue by her actions?

10. What ingredients are necessary for courageous action in crisis situations?

11. Think about a crisis that you or someone close to you is facing. What insights do you have about that crisis that could lead to courageous action and rescue for that person?

It's always easier to do nothing. Ask God to give you a discerning heart and mind, and then the courage to act as one of his children who stands for what is right.

Now or Later

Not every idea we have about another person's life or ideas is valid. Write down some guiding principles that can keep you from "trespassing" or "ignoring" issues that come before you.