

FIRST DAY:

- **Review the lecture, Read the notes and the references**

SECOND DAY:**Read 1 Samuel 25:1-13****David, Nabal and Abigail**

[25:1] Now Samuel died, and all Israel assembled and mourned for him; and they buried him at his home in Ramah.

Then David moved down into the Desert of Maon. [2] 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. [3] His name was Nabal and his wife's name was Abigail. She was an intelligent and beautiful woman, but her husband, a Calebite, was surly and mean in his dealings.

[4] While David was in the desert, he heard that Nabal was shearing sheep. [5] So he sent ten young men and said to them, "Go up to Nabal at Carmel and greet him in my name. [6] Say to him: 'Long life to you! Good health to you and your household! And good health to all that is yours!'"

[7] "'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. [8] Ask your own servants and they will tell you. Therefore be favorable toward my young men, since we come at a festive time. Please give your servants and your son David whatever you can find for them.'"

[9] When David's men arrived, they gave Nabal this message in David's name. Then they waited.

[10] Nabal answered David's servants, "Who is this David? Who is this son of Jesse? Many servants are breaking away from their masters these days.

[11] Why should I take my bread and water, and the meat I have slaughtered for my shearers, and give it to men coming from who knows where?"

[12] David's men turned around and went back.

When they arrived, they reported every word.

[13] David said to his men, "Put on your swords!"

So they put on their swords, and David put on his.

About four hundred men went up with David, while two hundred stayed with the supplies.

THIRD DAY**Read 1 Samuel 25:14-44 with Psalm 37**

[14] One of the servants told Nabal's wife Abigail:

"David sent messengers from the desert to give our master his greetings, but he hurled insults at them.

[15] Yet these men were very good to us. They did not mistreat us, and the whole time we were out in the fields near them nothing was missing. [16] Night and day they were a wall around us all the time we were herding our sheep near them. [17] Now think it over and see what you can do, because disaster is hanging over our master and his whole household. He is such a wicked man that no one can talk to him."

[18] Abigail lost no time. She took two hundred loaves of bread, two skins of wine, five dressed sheep, five seahs of roasted grain, a hundred cakes of raisins and two hundred cakes of pressed figs, and loaded them on donkeys. [19] Then she told her servants, "Go on ahead; I'll follow you." But she did not tell her husband Nabal.

[20] As she came riding her donkey into a mountain ravine, there were David and his men descending toward her, and she met them. [21] David had just said, "It's been useless—all my watching over this fellow's property in the desert so that nothing of his was missing. He has paid me back evil for good. [22] May God deal with David, be it ever so severely, if by morning I leave alive one male of all who belong to him!"

[23] When Abigail saw David, she quickly got off her donkey and bowed down before David with her face to the ground. [24] She fell at his feet and said: "My lord, let the blame be on me alone. Please let your servant speak to you; hear what your servant has to say. [25] May my lord pay no attention to that wicked man Nabal. He is just like his name—his name is Fool, and folly goes with him. But as for me, your servant, I did not see the men my master sent.

[26] “Now since the LORD has kept you, my master, from bloodshed and from avenging yourself with your own hands, as surely as the LORD lives and as you live, may your enemies and all who intend to harm my master be like Nabal. [27] And let this gift, which your servant has brought to my master, be given to the men who follow you. [28] Please forgive your servant's offense, for the LORD will certainly make a lasting dynasty for my master, because he fights the LORD's battles. Let no wrongdoing be found in you as long as you live. [29] Even though someone is pursuing you to take your life, the life of my master will be bound securely in the bundle of the living by the LORD your God. But the lives of your enemies he will hurl away as from the pocket of a sling. [30] When the LORD has done for my master every good thing he promised concerning him and has appointed him leader over Israel, [31] my master will not have on his conscience the staggering burden of needless bloodshed or of having avenged himself. And when the LORD has brought my master success, remember your servant.”

[32] David said to Abigail, “Praise be to the LORD, the God of Israel, who has sent you today to meet me. [33] May you be blessed for your good judgment and for keeping me from bloodshed this day and from avenging myself with my own hands. [34] Otherwise, as surely as the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, who has kept me from harming you, if you had not come quickly to meet me, not one male belonging to Nabal would have been left alive by daybreak.”

[35] Then David accepted from her hand what she had brought him and said, “Go home in peace. I have heard your words and granted your request.”

[36] When Abigail went to Nabal, he was in the house holding a banquet like that of a king. He was in high spirits and very drunk. So she told him nothing until daybreak. [37] Then in the morning, when Nabal was sober, his wife told him all these things, and his heart failed him and he became like a stone. [38] About ten days later, the LORD struck Nabal and he died.

[39] When David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, “Praise be to the LORD, who has upheld my cause against Nabal for treating me with contempt. He has kept his servant from doing wrong and has brought Nabal's wrongdoing down on his own head.”

Then David sent word to Abigail, asking her to become his wife. [40] His servants went to Carmel

and said to Abigail, “David has sent us to you to take you to become his wife.”

[41] She bowed down with her face to the ground and said, “Here is your maidservant, ready to serve you and wash the feet of my master's servants.”

[42] Abigail quickly got on a donkey and, attended by her five maids, went with David's messengers and became his wife. [43] David had also married Ahinoam of Jezreel, and they both were his wives. [44] But Saul had given his daughter Michal, David's wife, to Paltiel son of Laish, who was from Gallim.

Psalm 37 Of David

[37:1] Do not fret because of evil men or be envious of those who do wrong;

[2] for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away.

[3] Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.

[4] Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart.

[5] Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this:

[6] He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun.

[7] Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; do not fret when men succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.

[8] Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret—it leads only to evil.

[9] For evil men will be cut off, but those who hope in the LORD will inherit the land.

[10] A little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look for them, they will not be found.

[11] But the meek will inherit the land and enjoy great peace.

[12] The wicked plot against the righteous and gnash their teeth at them;

[13] but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for he knows their day is coming.

[14] The wicked draw the sword
and bend the bow to bring down the poor and needy,
to slay those whose ways are upright.

[15] But their swords will pierce their own hearts,
and their bows will be broken.

[16] Better the little that the righteous have than the
wealth of many wicked;

[17] for the power of the wicked will be broken,
but the LORD upholds the righteous.

[18] The days of the blameless are known to the
LORD, and their inheritance will endure forever.

[19] In times of disaster they will not wither;
in days of famine they will enjoy plenty.

[20] But the wicked will perish:
The LORD's enemies will be like the beauty of the
fields, they will vanish—vanish like smoke.

[21] The wicked borrow and do not repay,
but the righteous give generously;

[22] those the LORD blesses will inherit the land,
but those he curses will be cut off.

[23] If the LORD delights in a man's way,
he makes his steps firm;

[24] though he stumble, he will not fall,
for the LORD upholds him with his hand.

[25] I was young and now I am old,
yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken
or their children begging bread.

[26] They are always generous and lend freely;
their children will be blessed.

[27] Turn from evil and do good;
then you will dwell in the land forever.

[28] For the LORD loves the just and will not forsake
his faithful ones. They will be protected forever,
but the offspring of the wicked will be cut off;

[29] the righteous will inherit the land
and dwell in it forever.

[30] The mouth of the righteous man utters wisdom,
and his tongue speaks what is just.

[31] The law of his God is in his heart;

his feet do not slip.

[32] The wicked lie in wait for the righteous,
seeking their very lives;

[33] but the LORD will not leave them in their power
or let them be condemned when brought to trial.

[34] Wait for the LORD and keep his way.
He will exalt you to inherit the land; when the wicked
are cut off, you will see it.

[35] I have seen a wicked and ruthless man
flourishing like a green tree in its native soil,

[36] but he soon passed away and was no more;
though I looked for him, he could not be found.

[37] Consider the blameless, observe the upright;
there is a future for the man of peace.

[38] But all sinners will be destroyed; the future of
the wicked will be cut off.

[39] The salvation of the righteous comes from the
LORD; he is their stronghold in time of trouble.

[40] The LORD helps them and delivers them;
he delivers them from the wicked and saves them,
because they take refuge in him.

FOURTH DAY

Read 1 Samuel 26

David Again Spares Saul's Life

[26:1] The Ziphites went to Saul at Gibeah and said,
“Is not David hiding on the hill of Hakilah, which
faces Jeshimon?”

[2] So Saul went down to the Desert of Ziph, with his
three thousand chosen men of Israel, to search there
for David. [3] Saul made his camp beside the road on
the hill of Hakilah facing Jeshimon, but David
stayed in the desert. When he saw that Saul had
followed him there, [4] he sent out scouts and learned
that Saul had definitely arrived.

[5] Then David set out and went to the place where
Saul had camped. He saw where Saul and Abner son
of Ner, the commander of the army, had lain down.

Saul was lying inside the camp, with the army encamped around him.

[6] David then asked Ahimelech the Hittite and Abishai son of Zeruiah, Joab's brother, "Who will go down into the camp with me to Saul?"

"I'll go with you," said Abishai.

[7] 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.

[8] 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 my spear; I won't strike him twice."

[9] But David said to Abishai, "Don't destroy him! Who can lay a hand on the LORD's anointed and be guiltless? [10] As surely as the LORD lives," he said, "the LORD himself will strike him; either his time will come and he will die, or he will go into battle and perish. [11] 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."

[12] So David took the spear and water jug near Saul's head, and they left. No one saw or knew about it, nor did anyone wake up. They were all sleeping, because the LORD had put them into a deep sleep.

[13] Then David crossed over to the other side and stood on top of the hill some distance away; there was a wide space between them. [14] He called out to the army and to Abner son of Ner, "Aren't you going to answer me, Abner?"

Abner replied, "Who are you who calls to the king?"

[15] David said, "You're a man, aren't you? And who is like you in Israel? Why didn't you guard your lord the king? Someone came to destroy your lord the king. [16] What you have done is not good. As surely as the LORD lives, you and your men deserve to die, because you did not guard your master, the LORD's anointed. Look around you. Where are the king's spear and water jug that were near his head?"

[17] Saul recognized David's voice and said, "Is that your voice, David my son?"

David replied, "Yes it is, my lord the king." [18] And he added, "Why is my lord pursuing his servant? What have I done, and what wrong am I guilty of? [19] Now let my lord the king listen to his servant's words. If the LORD has incited you against me, then may he accept an offering. If, however, men have done it, may they be cursed before the LORD! They have now driven me from my share in the LORD's inheritance and have said, 'Go, serve other gods.' [20] Now do not let my blood fall to the ground far from the presence of the LORD. The king of Israel has come out to look for a flea—as one hunts a partridge in the mountains."

[21] 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 erred greatly."

[22] "Here is the king's spear," David answered. "Let one of your young men come over and get it.

[23] The LORD rewards every man for his 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."

[25] Then Saul said to David, "May you be blessed, my son David; you will do great things and surely triumph."

So David went on his way, and Saul returned home.

FIFTH DAY:

Read 1 Samuel 27

David Among the Philistines

[27:1] But David thought to himself, "One of these days I will be destroyed by the hand of Saul. The best thing I can do is to escape to the land of the Philistines. Then Saul will give up searching for me anywhere in Israel, and I will slip out of his hand."

[2] So David and the six hundred men with him left and went over to Achish son of Maoch king of Gath.

[3] David and his men settled in Gath with Achish. Each man had his family with him, and David had his two wives: Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail of

Carmel, the widow of Nabal. [4] When Saul was told that David had fled to Gath, he no longer searched for him.

[5] Then David said to Achish, “If I have found favor in your eyes, let a place be assigned to me in one of the country towns, that I may live there. Why should your servant live in the royal city with you?”

[6] So on that day Achish gave him Ziklag, and it has belonged to the kings of Judah ever since.

[7] David lived in Philistine territory a year and four months.

[8] Now David and his men went up and raided the Geshurites, the Girzites and the Amalekites. (From ancient times these peoples had lived in the land extending to Shur and Egypt.) [9] Whenever David attacked an area, he did not leave a man or woman alive, but took sheep and cattle, donkeys and camels, and clothes. Then he returned to Achish.

[10] When Achish asked, “Where did you go raiding today?” David would say, “Against the Negev of Judah” or “Against the Negev of Jerahmeel” or “Against the Negev of the Kenites.” [11] He did not leave a man or woman alive to be brought to Gath, for he thought, “They might inform on us and say, ‘This is what David did.’” And such was his practice as long as he lived in Philistine territory. [12] Achish trusted David and said to himself, “He has become so odious to his people, the Israelites, that he will be my servant forever.”

Question 14

John 10:27-30; [27] My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. [28] I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. [29] My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. [30] I and the Father are one.”

Romans 8:30-39; [30] And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

[31] What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? [32] He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? [33] Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who

justifies. [34] Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. [35] Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? [36] As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

[37] No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. [38] For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, [39] neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Philippians 1:6; [6] being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

SIXTH DAY

Review 1 Samuel 25-27 with Psalm 37
(See above scriptures)