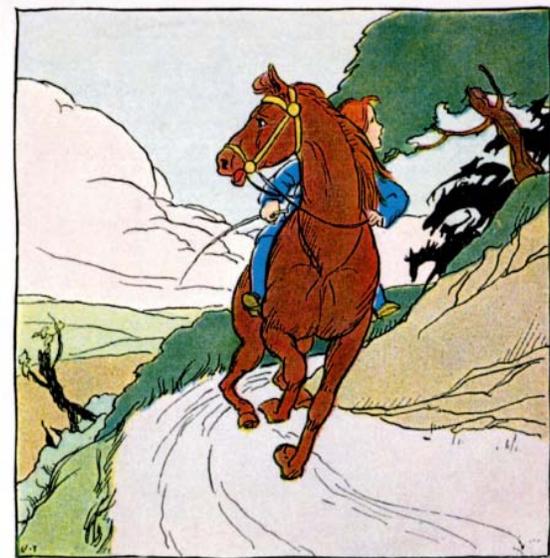


## Woman Saves Ranch; Becomes Queen

### Scripture Reference:



*1 Samuel 25:2-38* Please read the entire passage and then break it up into bites small enough for your age-group to grasp the story line. The outline here is used with 7-12 year olds primarily. Simply setup the story as you read the suggested portions of the overall passage. Then the points of the message follow.

**INTRO:** Today we are going to find out about a courageous woman that was the wife of a rancher named Nabel. This great ranch was a result of what Abraham did nearly 1000 years earlier. Nabel was not a very smart rancher: His name meant "FOOL" but he did have one good thing going for him, he had Abigail for a wife. She was the kind of wife any great Texan rancher would be proud of. She was smart and was not afraid of taking action, even if it was dangerous. Another nice thing was that she was pretty too!

Read *1 Sam. 25: 2 & 3:*

*2And there was a man in Maon, whose possessions were in Carmel; and the man was very great, and he had three thousand sheep, and a thousand goats: and he was shearing his sheep in Carmel.*

*3Now the name of the man was Nabal; and the name of his wife Abigail: and she was a woman of good understanding, and of a beautiful countenance: but the man was churlish and evil in his doings; and he was of the house of Caleb.*

### God May Bless You so You Can Help Others:

- Nabel enjoyed a comfortable life. Even though he was not smart things had gone well for his ranch.
- *Sometimes you see someone getting blessed that you don't think deserves it.*
- God may be blessing them so he can ultimately bless another.
- God blessed Nabel and expected him to help others.
- In particular he was supposed to help David. God had anointed David king, but King Saul was not willing to give up the throne and was trying to kill David. David needed some help at this time.
- Just think, God may be using you to be a blessing to others.

Read *1 Sam. 25: 9-11:*

*9And when David's young men came, they spake to Nabal according to all those words in the name of David, and ceased.*

*10And Nabal answered David's servants, and said, Who is David? and who is the son of Jesse? there be many servants now a days that break away every man from his master.*

*11Shall I then take my bread, and my water, and my flesh that I have killed for my shearers, and give it unto men, whom I know not whence they be?*

## God Doesn't Want You to be Selfish:

- Nabel knew that David had protected the livestock and ranch hands but he was selfish and would not even give David and his men a small amount of food for all of their effort.
- David was living way out in the country because his life was in danger.
- *Nabel saw that David was weak at this time and decided to be mean instead of helpful.*
- Just think of how dumb this guy was: *He could have been helping the future king but instead was making him his enemy.*
- **Selfishness usually hurts you more than the person being mistreated.**

Read *1 Sam. 25: 18-20*:

*18Then Abigail made haste, and took two hundred loaves, and two bottles of wine, and five sheep ready dressed, and five measures of parched corn, and an hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid them on asses.*

*19And she said unto her servants, Go on before me; behold, I come after you. But she told not her husband Nabal.*

*20And it was so, as she rode on the ass, that she came down by the covert on the hill, and, behold, David and his men came down against her; and she met them.*

Read *1 Sam. 25: 23-24*:

*23And when Abigail saw David, she hastened, and lighted off the ass, and fell before David on her face, and bowed herself to the ground,*

*24And fell at his feet, and said, Upon me, my lord, upon me let this iniquity be: and let thine handmaid, I pray thee, speak in thine audience, and hear the words of thine handmaid*

## God Uses Anyone Willing to Do Something:

- Abigail was told by one of their ranch hands what Nabel did. She knew that it was about to get rough.
- *She didn't run and hide: Instead she jumped into action and started making things right.*
- She sent food and provisions for David's mighty men.
- Then she saddled up and took off to confront David.
- She took a shortcut and headed them off at the pass.
- She rode right up to David and his mighty men and confronted him.
- She jumped off her horse (actually a donkey) and took full responsibility for her ranch and the situation that her husband caused.
- She reasoned with David and stopped a really ugly fight before it started.
- Because of her boldness and cool head, David was really impressed with her.
- In fact, her evil husband died of a heart attack when he learned what all had happened.
- Upon hearing Abigail was widowed, David asked her to be his wife.
- **Just think: her willingness to be helpful and her quick action wound up making her Queen!**

As Christians we should live our lives like Abigail: Always doing right because it is right. When you see something that needs to be done, go ahead and do it.

However, some are not Christians so your first thing that you need to do is give your heart to Jesus. Listen as we present the salvation scriptures and if the Holy Spirit speaks to you, please be willing to take action on that.