

Character Counts: Building a Life That Pleases God

The Discernment of Abigail

1 SAMUEL 25:1–42



The Heart of the Matter

She appeared suddenly, fading away almost as quickly. Abigail made the most of her brief moment in the spotlight, even though she entered the biblical story in the presence of one of the most significant figures in all of Scripture—David, the future king of Israel. With conflict brewing between David and Nabal, Abigail's husband, Abigail intervened just in time. Because she possessed such depth of character she was able to discern the rising tempers and act to alleviate them. As a result of Abigail's godly character, a murder was restrained and God was given room to work His will in a most surprising way.



Discovering the Way

1. A Little Background Information

While on the run from Saul, David, who was the king-elect, showed up in Carmel with 600 men.

2. Let's Meet the Main Characters (1 Samuel 25:1–4)

A conflict between Nabal and David forced Abigail, Nabal's wife, to defuse the conflict through her discerning character.

3. Natural Conflicts . . . Discerning Solutions (1 Samuel 25:5–42)

Conflicts between husband-wife and employer-employee create an opportunity to see Abigail's discernment on display.

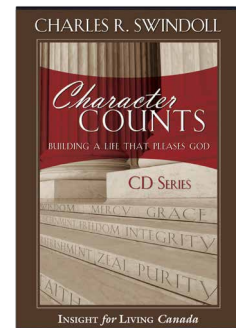


Starting Your Journey

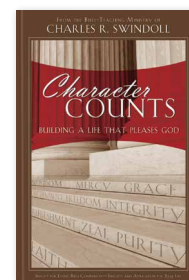
When there is discernment, there need not be a great display of strength, and wisdom is rewarded with relief from above.



Tools for Digging Deeper



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