



Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of July 15, 2018

This Week's Focus: On the cross Jesus, the only perfectly innocent one, endured the wrath of God toward sin so that all who call on him as Savior can experience peace with God.

This Week's Text: 1 Samuel 25

"Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed." **Isaiah 53:4-5**

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What has the Holy Spirit impressed on your heart and mind from this week's sermon/text?
- Why does the narrator briefly mention Samuel's death at the opening of chapter 25? What important role had Samuel played in Israel's history? What important role had he played in David's life?
- Who was Nabal? How had David and his men benefitted Nabal, his family, and his shearers? How did Nabal live up to the meaning of his name ("fool")?
- How did Nabal respond to David's humble request? What does Nabal's lack of generosity reveal about him, specifically where he derives his identity, value, and glory?
- What is idolatry and how does it relate to foolishness (Psalm 14:1)? Share some ways idolatry manifests itself in your life. How does the gospel reorient our worship to its rightful place?
- Contrast David's reaction to Nabal's insult and his treatment of Saul in chapter 24. Explain why his response was different this time. Who intervened for Nabal by taking responsibility for his foolishness?
- What was the basis of Abigail's appeal? Discuss how Abigail foreshadows the work and role of the Holy Spirit by revealing truth, restraining sin, and reminding David of the LORD of glory (John 16:7-14).
- How are you inclined to respond when people offend you or attack your ego? Share some examples of how God has graciously restrained you from taking vengeance by his Spirit or through friend.

- How did David respond to Abigail's appeal? When confronted with your sin, are you quick to confess, repent, and seek forgiveness and reconciliation with God and others?
- Discuss how Jesus is greater than David because he endured the hostility of all of humanity's sin and made perfect atonement on the cross (2 Corinthians 5:21; Isaiah 53:2-6).
- How does this passage propel you to live on mission to demonstrate and declare the gospel to those within your spheres of influence?