

TakeNote

Pastor Brian Howard—
July 8–9, 2023

The Power of a Peacemaker

—1 Samuel 25

Part 6 in a Sermon Series on the Life of David

The question is not “How do I avoid conflict?”

The question is “How will I deal with conflict?”

3 Main Characters

1. David: The angry king
2. Nabal: The wealthy fool
3. Abigail: The wise woman

Nabal responds to conflict with self-centered arrogance

Self-centered arrogance extends conflict

David responds to conflict with self-righteous anger

Self-righteous anger intensifies conflict

In the midst of conflict, speaking the truth is always the right thing to do

- Speak the truth to yourself
- Speak the truth to your spouse
- Speak the truth to your children

- Speak the truth to your employer
- Speak the truth to your God

Peacemaking always requires someone to go first

When two people are in conflict and both are at fault,
who should apologize first?

Whoever is more mature

Troublemakers believe the argument ends once one of us wins

Peacemakers believe the argument ends when we stop trying to win

Who has God sent to you for such a time as this?

- Your parents
- Your spouse
- Your friends
- Your boss
- Your spiritual leaders

The life of David is filled with both faith and failure

How are you responding to the conflict in your life?

- Nabal's self-centered arrogance
- David's self-righteous anger
- Abigail self-sacrificial peacemaking

The story of Abigail moves us because her life points to Jesus