

# PEACE

## LESSON 11

### Making Peace with People

To be a peace-maker means to harmonize; to take two or more things that don't necessarily go together and find a way to join them. Sometimes this is hard to do. It may mean we have to apologize. It may mean we have to spend a lot of time in discussion. It may mean we have to reach a compromise that isn't exactly what we wanted. It may mean that we must quickly take peacemaking action like Abigail did.

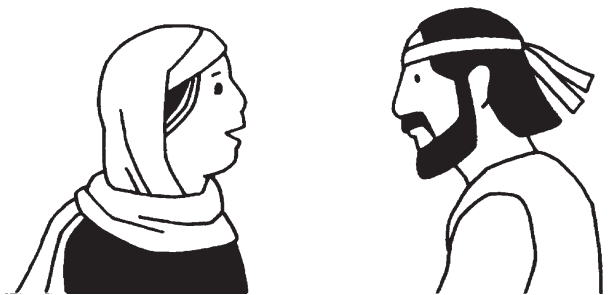
Before David became king over Israel, he was an outlaw, running from King Saul who wanted to kill him and was actively hunting him. Other men who were also outlaws in one way or another, or discontent or in debt joined him, until there were over 600 men with him. David became their leader and he taught them to be brave and kind men.

Sometimes they met shepherds in the wilderness and when they did, they were always good to them, helping them protect their flocks from wild animals. Some of these shepherds worked for a man called Nabal, and one day David heard that Nabal was holding a feast!

David and his men were hungry. It was hard to find food in the wilderness. David was sure Nabal would invite them to the feast, after all the help they had given to his shepherds. But no invitation came. Finally, David sent some men to ask Nabal if they could join him. But Nabal was a mean, nasty man. He made fun of David, and refused to invite them to his feast.

When David heard that, he was very angry! He told his men to pick up their swords and follow him to kill Nabal!

Meanwhile, Nabal's shepherds were very worried. They had heard David's men ask for an invitation and they heard Nabal's nasty words. They told Abigail, Nabal's wife, about all the help David and his men had given them. They told Abigail that unless she sent food to David, there would be trouble!



Abigail was a woman of action. She quickly gathered 200 loaves of bread, 2 skins of wine, 5 sheep, roasted grain, 100 clusters of raisins, and 200 cakes of figs. She loaded the food on donkeys and set off to meet David. Falling down at his feet when she met him, she pleaded with him not to kill Nabal. She reminded him that soon he would be king and this trouble would be forgotten. She excused Nabal as a very foolish man who wasn't worth killing.

David thanked her! He and his men put away their weapons and enjoyed what Abigail had brought. David recognized that God had sent her to remind him that it wasn't David's job to take vengeance. He sent her away, saying, "Go in peace."

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# WORKSHEET 11: MAKING PEACE WITH PEOPLE

## ANSWERS FROM THE BIBLE:

How did these people intercede to make peace?

Exodus 32:30-34 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

1 Kings 3:16-28 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2 Kings 1:9-15 \_\_\_\_\_  
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## WORD STUDY:

**"mediator"**

Look up this word in a concordance. What is the Greek word and what does it mean? Who is our mediator (1 Timothy 2:5)

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## APPLICATION:

It can be a challenge to be a peacemaker. It's good to have some ideas of how to do this up your sleeve... Using the example of Abigail, Moses, Solomon and the man who went to get Elijah, write down some ideas of ways you could try to make peace when the need arises.

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