

1 Samuel 24-25 – “Waiting on God When You’re Wronged”

1. A Provoking Opportunity – 24:1-4

24:1-4 - *Now it happened, when Saul had returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying, “Take note! David is in the Wilderness of En Gedi.” 2 Then Saul took three thousand chosen men from all Israel, and went to seek David and his men on the Rocks of the Wild Goats. 3 So he came to the sheepfolds by the road, where there was a cave; and Saul went in to attend to his needs. (David and his men were staying in the recesses of the cave.) 4 Then the men of David said to him, “This is the day of which the Lord said to you, ‘Behold, I will deliver your enemy into your hand, that you may do to him as it seems good to you.’ ” And David arose and secretly cut off a corner of Saul’s robe.*

You’ll remember at the end of chapter 23, Saul was hunting David and was nearly ready to catch him, but God sent the Philistines to invade the land and distract Saul. Saul left David to deal with the Philistines. It was all the sovereign work of the Lord. And in Chapter 24 we see God’s sovereignty at work again. Once Saul had dealt with the Philistines, he was told that David was in the **Wilderness of En Gedi**.

- En Gedi means place of the young goat. It is here that you will often find many mountain goats and other animals up along this beautiful oasis (which is why we see the reference to the **Rocks of the Wild Goats** – vs. 2 / Ibex). En Gedi sits right near the Dead Sea, in an otherwise barren place. But En Gedi is a true Israeli oasis; a refuge with constant fresh flowing water. It’s one of my favorite places to visit while in Israel. You can hike up and see the steep mountain cliffs on either side with caves where David may have been hiding out. There are streams, waterfalls, and palm trees. It’s a tropical paradise and I can sure understand why David would want to come here for a bit of rest.

But Saul was still focussed on killing David. So he gathers 3,000 **chosen men** to come and hunt him down. These were skilled guys ready to handle the difficult terrain. As they come to En Gedi, Saul goes into a cave to **attend to his needs**. This could be better translated: to cover his feet. This is speaking of Saul dropping his clothes to go to the bathroom; to defecate more exactly. This explains why David was able to have access to his robe without being caught.

Now this is pretty remarkable stuff that again reveals God's sovereign hand in all things. Of all the caves that Saul happens to stop in, it just so happens to be the cave that David and his men are in.

- Now they all automatically assume that this is God's deliverance of Saul to David. This is what the Lord has already prophesied. Now there's no record of this prophecy anywhere. Either it was a false prophecy, their own wishful thinking, or it may have been a genuine prophecy regarding the genuine enemies of Israel but misapplied to Saul here.

Either way, David must have wondered, *Is the Lord delivering Saul to me??*

David arose to go to Saul. Perhaps David even contemplated taking lethal action. But as he approached Saul, he simply caught off a corner of his robe.

2.A Pricked Conscience – 24:5-7

24:5-7 - *Now it happened afterward that David's heart troubled him because he had cut Saul's robe. ⁶ And he said to his men, "The Lord forbid that I should do this thing to my master, the Lord's anointed, to stretch out my hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the Lord."* ⁷ So David restrained his servants with these words, and did not allow them to rise against Saul. And Saul got up from the cave and went on his way.

After cutting Saul's robe, David's heart was troubled. Why?

Because David knew the Lord had given him the throne, and God didn't need his help. Saul still had a purpose. This was still God's anointed.

- The corner of the robe had great significance. It was a symbol of Saul's kingship. But then David also made it noncompliant with God's law of the tassels (Number 15:37-41; Deuteronomy 22:12).
- **Numbers 15:38–39**, “*Speak to the children of Israel: Tell them to make tassels on the corners of their garments throughout their generations, and to put a blue thread in the tassels of the corners. ³⁹ And you shall have the tassel, that you may look upon it and remember all the commandments of the Lord and do them, and that you may not follow the harlotry to which your own heart and your own eyes are inclined,*”

David recognized he did something not just against Saul, but against the Lord as well. This act prevented Saul from carrying out God's law.

David recognized that this was inappropriate and not what God was calling him to do. Saul was still the ***anointed of the Lord***. He was still that vessel set apart for God's purposes. Those purposes were primarily to refine David, but that was not for David to try and solve.

- Abraham got in to trouble when he tried to help out the Lord (i.e. Hagar).
- David understood this was something the Lord would take care of in His timing. But for the time being, he was still the Lord's anointed that David would not put his hand to.
- We would probably keep ourselves out of a lot of trouble if we looked at things the way David did too.

In this kind of situation many people would have had plenty of reason to justify taking Saul's life. But we are never justified in carrying out evil to fight evil. We don't fight fire with fire.

- ***Romans 12:19–21***, "Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. ²⁰ Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

So David now becomes Saul's protector as he restrains his men from carrying out an unnecessary evil in killing Saul.

As Saul leaves the cave, unaware of any of this taking place, David follows him out to confront him.

3.A Positive Interaction – 24:8-22

24:8-15 - David also arose afterward, went out of the cave, and called out to Saul, saying, "My lord the king!" And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the earth, and bowed down. ⁹ And David said to Saul: "Why do you listen to the words of men who say, 'Indeed David seeks your harm'? ¹⁰ Look, this day your eyes have seen that the Lord delivered you today into my hand in the cave, and someone urged me to kill you. But my eye spared you, and I said, 'I will not stretch out my hand against my lord, for he is the Lord's anointed.' ¹¹ Moreover, my father, see! Yes, see the corner of your robe in my hand! For in that I cut off the corner of your robe, and did not kill you, know and see that there is neither evil nor rebellion in

my hand, and I have not sinned against you. Yet you hunt my life to take it.
¹² Let the Lord judge between you and me, and let the Lord avenge me on you. But my hand shall not be against you. ¹³ *As the proverb of the ancients says, ‘Wickedness proceeds from the wicked.’ But my hand shall not be against you.* ¹⁴ *After whom has the king of Israel come out? Whom do you pursue? A dead dog? A flea?* ¹⁵ *Therefore let the Lord be judge, and judge between you and me, and see and plead my case, and deliver me out of your hand.”*

David confronts Saul and the false reports being circulated against David. If David really sought Saul's harm, he had every chance just a few minutes ago. He's even got the corner of Saul's robe to prove it.

“In David's words to Saul, he twice called on the **LORD** to act as **Judge**. He was content to leave his case in the hands of God rather than do what might seem right to the natural man. One of the things Peter remembered about our Lord was that “when He was reviled, [He] did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously” (1 Pet. 2:23). May God enable us to be as trustingly calm in the face of adversity!” ¹

- It's like what we saw in 2 Thessalonians 1 with the believers facing persecution. They wondered why God wasn't stopping it. We can often wonder why the Lord does the things He does, or doesn't do the things we hope? But the lesson there, as it is here, is that God will bring retribution. He will make all things right. We need to trust Him and His timing.

24:16-22 - So it was, when David had finished speaking these words to Saul, that Saul said, “Is this your voice, my son David?” And Saul lifted up his voice and wept. ¹⁷ *Then he said to David: “You are more righteous than I; for you have rewarded me with good, whereas I have rewarded you with evil.* ¹⁸ *And you have shown this day how you have dealt well with me; for when the Lord delivered me into your hand, you did not kill me.* ¹⁹ *For if a man finds his enemy, will he let him get away safely? Therefore may the Lord reward you with good for what you have done to me this day.* ²⁰ *And now I know indeed that you shall surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in your hand.* ²¹ *Therefore swear now to me by the Lord that you will not cut off my descendants after me, and that you will*

¹ MacDonald, W. (1995). *Believer's Bible Commentary: Old and New Testaments* (A. Farstad, Ed.; p. 316). Thomas Nelson.

not destroy my name from my father's house.”²² So David swore to Saul.

And Saul went home, but David and his men went up to the stronghold.

Saul recognized that David was certainly more upright and righteous than he. And here Saul admits that David is the successor to the throne (24:20). Because of that he asks (like Jonathan) for protection for his family. It was common for a new king to wipe away any surviving family member of the previous king lest they lead a revolt. And David graciously made that oath (he had already done so to Jonathan, so it was no skin off his back).

Saul then went home, but notice, David doesn't follow. He instead goes to the stronghold (Masada). David seemed to be weary of Saul's crocodile tears, and that's exactly what this seemed like. Saul said the right words, but his heart was not in it. It won't be long until Saul is back hunting down David (26:2).

When we go through accounts like this, it's a fair question to ask why God didn't just get rid of Saul at this point? David's already been anointed the new king, let's just get it going. But there was a reason to keep a guy like Saul around. Saul would become a great training tool for David. Though David was a man after God's own heart, there were still some areas that God wanted to refine and reshape, to prepare him for this important position he would hold. And so David spent a number of years going through king's school. And he faced many situations that would help train him up to be the man God desired.

- Perhaps you have a few Saul's in your life. Our natural reaction is often to remove them whatever means necessary. But what might the Lord be wanting to teach you or train you in by having someone like that in your life? Don't reject it, but rather be refined by it.

4. A Personal Insult – 25:1-13

25:1 - Then Samuel died; and the Israelites gathered together and lamented for him, and buried him at his home in Ramah. And David arose and went down to the Wilderness of Paran.

Samuel lived a pretty humble and quiet life. We don't read of the kinds of things with Samuel as you would with a guy like David, who went out and slew thousands of Philistines and triumphed over their giant. Yet Samuel goes down in Scripture as one of the godly giants for Israel. He was the last of the judges and first of the prophets. And he lived in simple service and separation to the Lord.

He's a man where we don't read about failures or setbacks but is consecrated to the Lord and consistent with the Lord. Not flashy but faithful!

Samuel died... and **David arose**. When God removes someone, you can be sure there is another waiting to continue the Lord's work.

Samuel's death signals the monarchy era of Israel. David's descendants would occupy the throne of Israel forever – ultimately fulfilled in Christ.

25:2-3 - Now there was a man in Maon whose business was in Carmel, and the man was very rich. He had three thousand sheep and a thousand goats. And he was shearing his sheep in Carmel. ³ **The name of the man was Nabal, and the name of his wife Abigail. And she was a woman of good understanding and beautiful appearance; but the man was harsh and evil in his doings. He was of the house of Caleb.**

Carmel is not speaking of Mt. Carmel up in the northern part of Israel, but it is a town about 20 miles south of Bethlehem and only a few miles north of Maon.

Nabal means *fool*. A person's name was usually connected to his character. Did his parents name him this? Or was this a sort of nickname he earned?

Abigail means *my father is joy*, or, *cause of joy*. She was a blessing, however she was in a rough marriage where the two of them seem to be unequally yoked. However, her focus was heavenward and her Heavenly Father would indeed be her joy.

- Perhaps this was an arranged marriage, as per the custom of the day. Her parents may have thought, You'll be financially secure with a guy like that. This is a no brainer. It's sad how this is often still the criteria people look to for a happy marriage. If I can just marry a rich guy I'll be happy. But as we will see, this was no guarantee for a blessed marriage.
- Illustration: Jack's grandfather left him ten million dollars, and the next week Diane agreed to marry him.

After three months of married life, Jack noticed that his beautiful new wife was ignoring him more and more. Whenever they went out in public, she ignored him and flirted with other men. Finally, he decided to confront her. "Diane," he said, "was the only reason you married me because my grandfather left me ten million dollars when he died?"

"Don't be ridiculous," she replied, "I don't care who gave you the money!"

25:4-9 - When David heard in the wilderness that Nabal was shearing his sheep, ⁵ David sent ten young men; and David said to the young men, “Go up to Carmel, go to Nabal, and greet him in my name. ⁶ And thus you shall say to him who lives in prosperity: ‘Peace be to you, peace to your house, and peace to all that you have! ⁷ Now I have heard that you have shearers. Your shepherds were with us, and we did not hurt them, nor was there anything missing from them all the while they were in Carmel. ⁸ Ask your young men, and they will tell you. Therefore let my young men find favor in your eyes, for we come on a feast day. Please give whatever comes to your hand to your servants and to your son David.’ ” ⁹ So when David’s young men came, they spoke to Nabal according to all these words in the name of David, and waited.

The season of sheep shearing was somewhat of a celebratory time. It was kind of like harvest, where you would bring in your blessing and it was often times marked with a giving of gifts to others. You recognize how you've been blessed, it was a time of thanksgiving, and you want to bless others – those that are in need.

So David seeing this man who is rich, in abundance, sends 10 of his men to approach Nabal for a gift. After all, Nabal's servants and his sheep had been hanging out in the same place where David and his men were. And they could have just helped themselves to rack of lamb, but they kept the sheep safe and protected Nabal's shepherds.

- In this day it was customary that if you received protection, you would give a gift to those who helped you. It wasn't that David and his men were the start of the first mafia in Scripture looking to extort Nabal for some cash. This was just a customary thing.

25:10-13 - Then Nabal answered David’s servants, and said, “Who is David, and who is the son of Jesse? There are many servants nowadays who break away each one from his master. ¹¹ Shall I then take my bread and my water and my meat that I have killed for my shearers, and give it to men when I do not know where they are from?” ¹² So David’s young men turned on their heels and went back; and they came and told him all these words. ¹³ Then David said to his men, “Every man gird on his sword.” So every man girded on his sword, and David also girded on his sword. And about

four hundred men went with David, and two hundred stayed with the supplies.

Who is David... Nabal would have been well of aware of who David is. His fame had been spreading throughout all Israel.

- **1 Samuel 18:16**, *"But all Israel and Judah loved David, because he went out and came in before them."*

So this question of Nabal's is more an insult to David, almost like asking, *Who does David think he is!?*

And Nabal basically accuses David of leading a rebellion. He implies that David has broken away from Saul, and now many servants are doing that to their own masters.

- But David had conducted himself as a servant before Saul. He was even ministering before him when he knew he would be the king over Saul one day. David was being falsely accused by this man Nabal.

Notice Nabal's view towards these things. He says, ***shall I take my bread, my water, my meat.*** Everything is viewed as his. When we have that view towards possessions and things, we will hold that much more tightly to them. But if instead we can view our things as the Lords, for He is the giver of all that we have, then we will be at a place where we will be much more inclined to give and bless others.

Now here's an interesting scenario. David has been slighted, so he's now ready for some payback. He had just learned in the previous chapter to leave things in the Lord's hands, but now he's stumbling in a much more minor situation.

- It's often times when you come out of those great victories that we can become vulnerable in the simpler things.
- Samson could bring down an army of the Philistines, but was himself brought down by a single woman.
- "Does it not show beyond all possible doubt that I cannot stand against the enemy of my soul unless the Lord upholds me moment by moment? This story tells me that however long I may have been on the Christian path, however often I may have overcome one temptation or another, however many times I have defeated sin in one area, it can strike in another and crush me in a moment." (Redpath)

Now the previous lessons should have stuck, but God will continue to retest him and remind him of God's faithfulness. And this test will be a preparation for another situation David will encounter coming up.

Now what's sad is that David went up against the Philistine giant with a sling and stones and fought in the name of the Lord. But now up against an old man like Nabal, he's reaching for his sword and takes 400 men with him. Still work to be done as you can see.

5. A Providential Interruption – 25:14-35

25:14-19 - Now one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, saying, “Look, David sent messengers from the wilderness to greet our master; and he reviled them. ¹⁵ But the men were very good to us, and we were not hurt, nor did we miss anything as long as we accompanied them, when we were in the fields. ¹⁶ They were a wall to us both by night and day, all the time we were with them keeping the sheep. ¹⁷ Now therefore, know and consider what you will do, for harm is determined against our master and against all his household. For he is such a scoundrel that one cannot speak to him.” ¹⁸ Then Abigail made haste and took two hundred loaves of bread, two skins of wine, five sheep already dressed, five seahs of roasted grain, one hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and loaded them on donkeys. ¹⁹ And she said to her servants, “Go on before me; see, I am coming after you.” But she did not tell her husband Nabal.

Nabal's servant knows that this is not going to end well. David is going to be none to happy with Nabal's response. And so he fills in Abigail on what's gone down. Abigail was much more approachable and gentle and of course rational. To tell this to Nabal would have not been good.

David Guzik says, “The book of Proverbs had not been written yet, but they still knew the truth of **Proverbs 17:12**, “Let a man meet a bear robbed of her cubs, Rather than a fool in his folly.”

And in so doing this servant also confirms that David and his men were deserving of compensation for their protection of Nabal's men and sheep from various raiders that would want to come in and steal.

So Abigail steps up and prepares to give to David what is rightfully his; what he had been asking for all along, but what Nabal refused to do.

25:20-25 - So it was, as she rode on the donkey, that she went down under cover of the hill; and there were David and his men, coming down toward her, and she met them. ²¹ Now David had said, “Surely in vain I have protected all that this fellow has in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that belongs to him. And he has repaid me evil for good.

22 May God do so, and more also, to the enemies of David, if I leave one male of all who belong to him by morning light.” ²³ Now when Abigail saw David, she dismounted quickly from the donkey, fell on her face before David, and bowed down to the ground.

24 So she fell at his feet and said: “On me, my lord, on me let this iniquity be! And please let your maidservant speak in your ears, and hear the words of your maidservant.

25 Please, let not my lord regard this scoundrel Nabal. For as his name is, so is he: Nabal is his name, and folly is with him! But I, your maidservant, did not see the young men of my lord whom you sent.

Abigail's actions here are very exemplary. She didn't look at this situation as her way out from a miserable marriage. Nor did she come down on David for trying to take out her husband and his household. She comes with submissiveness – she calls David **lord** 14 times from vs. 24-31. And she comes speaking the heart of the Lord to David.

This is very honorable for Abigail to do. She knew her husband was a wicked guy, yet she's not only sticking with him, but she is standing up for him. She's trying to put the blame on herself. What a lesson for establishing harmony in the home. Too often in a marriage when one of the individuals begin to think they're not being treated fairly, it's grounds for leaving or divorce. But we need, like Abigail (the father is joy), to keep trusting in the Lord, and finding our joy and fulfillment in Him!

25:26-31 - Now therefore, my lord, as the Lord lives and as your soul lives, since the Lord has held you back from coming to bloodshed and from avenging yourself with your own hand, now then, let your enemies and those who seek harm for my lord be as Nabal. ²⁷ And now this present which your maidservant has brought to my lord, let it be given to the young men who follow my lord.

28 Please forgive the trespass of your maidservant. For the Lord will certainly make for my lord an enduring house, because my lord fights the battles of the Lord, and evil is not found in you throughout your days. ²⁹ Yet a man has risen to pursue you and seek

your life, but the life of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of the living with the Lord your God; and the lives of your enemies He shall sling out, as from the pocket of a sling. ³⁰ **And it shall come to pass, when the Lord has done for my lord according to all the good that He has spoken concerning you, and has appointed you ruler over Israel,** ³¹ **that this will be no grief to you, nor offense of heart to my lord, either that you have shed blood without cause, or that my lord has avenged himself. But when the Lord has dealt well with my lord, then remember your maidservant.”**

As Abigail speaks to David, she humbly speaks words of encouragement, and it's somewhat directive encouragement.

Since the Lord has held you back from coming to bloodshed (vs. 26).

The Lord will certainly make for my lord an enduring house (vs. 28)

My lord fights the battles of the Lord (vs. 28)

Evil is not found in you throughout your days (vs. 28)

The life of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of the living with the Lord

(vs. 29)

When the Lord has done for my lord according to all the good He has spoken has appointed you ruler over Israel (vs. 30)

Each of these statements should have and would have caused David to take note and be reminded who he was and Whose he was. She appealed to his calling and looked to encourage David rather than condemn David.

Abigail is a marvelous model of “sweetly speaking submission.” Many Christian wives have the idea of “silent submission.” They say, “I know my husband is wrong, but I won’t tell him. Submission means I should shut up.” That is wrong, and they should look to Abigail as an example. Other Christian wives have the idea of “sharply speaking submission.” They say, “I know my husband is wrong, and God has appointed me to tell him. And boy, will I!” That is wrong, and they should look to Abigail as an example. Abigail gives the right example - submission that speaks, but speaks sweetly instead of sharply. (Guzik)

Abigail steps in and offers some very sound counsel. It’s the Lord who will avenge. **The lives of your enemies He shall sling out**... 26:29.

It’s the Lord’s job to deal with the wrongs, not ours. Yes, there are times for correction and rebuke, but carrying out judgment is for the Lord.

- It’s wild that David saw the need to let the Lord deal with Saul, yet David is willing to bring bloodshed on many for not being given some food!

- We can tend to rise to the occasion when battling some big stuff, but then when the smaller stuff comes, we can tend to look at it a little lighter. It's why we need to be well protected in the armour of God.

25:32-35 - *Then David said to Abigail: “Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, who sent you this day to meet me! ³³ And blessed is your advice and blessed are you, because you have kept me this day from coming to bloodshed and from avenging myself with my own hand. ³⁴ For indeed, as the Lord God of Israel lives, who has kept me back from hurting you, unless you had hurried and come to meet me, surely by morning light no males would have been left to Nabal!” ³⁵ So David received from her hand what she had brought him, and said to her, “Go up in peace to your house. See, I have heeded your voice and respected your person.”*

Usually it's a woman that can lead a man to ruin, but this time it's a woman that acted wisely, and conducted herself in godliness preventing David from doing something foolish and becoming a Nabal himself.

6. A Proper Resolution – 25:36-44

25:36-38 - *Now Abigail went to Nabal, and there he was, holding a feast in his house, like the feast of a king. And Nabal's heart was merry within him, for he was very drunk; therefore she told him nothing, little or much, until morning light. ³⁷ So it was, in the morning, when the wine had gone from Nabal, and his wife had told him these things, that his heart died within him, and he became like a stone. ³⁸ Then it happened, after about ten days, that the Lord struck Nabal, and he died.*

Abigail waited for Nabal to sober up before she told him what she had done. And the news was so shocking that he either had a heart attack or a stroke. Perhaps Nabal was so angered by her going behind his back. Perhaps he thought that Saul may be out for his life now that it appeared they were in an alliance with David. Either way this news turned him to stone, and then 10 days later the Lord took his life.

25:39-42 - *So when David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, “Blessed be the Lord, who has pleaded the cause of my reproach from the hand of Nabal, and has kept His servant from evil! For the Lord has returned the wickedness of Nabal on his own head.” And David sent and proposed to Abigail, to take her as his wife. ⁴⁰ When the servants of David had come to*

Abigail at Carmel, they spoke to her saying, “David sent us to you, to ask you to become his wife.”⁴¹ Then she arose, bowed her face to the earth, and said, “Here is your maid servant, a servant to wash the feet of the servants of my lord.”⁴² So Abigail rose in haste and rode on a donkey, attended by five of her maidens; and she followed the messengers of David, and became his wife.

David rejoices because he didn't overstep his bounds. The Lord did the work and He will get the glory for it. He rejoiced because the Lord once again showed him how He will take care of everything if David would let Him.

- It's a lesson that can take a long time for us to learn. We can say that the Lord is in charge, but do we live where we allow Him to take charge. Or do we try and help him out?

What a wonderful end to this account. Here was Abigail, stuck in a bad situation, but she stuck with Nabal and the Lord has rewarded her. It's a good lesson for those who feel they're married to a Nabal. You may feel justified in leaving, feeling you deserve better, or that God just wants you to be happy, but perhaps he has you in that situation for a reason. Either way, God wants you to find that joy in Him. Just as Abigail means my father is joy. Despite what situation you are bound to in marriage, God can be that satisfaction and joy for you if you will look to Him and live for Him.

Did I say the story ends well? Just about...

25:43-44 - David also took Ahinoam of Jezreel, and so both of them were his wives.⁴⁴ But Saul had given Michal his daughter, David's wife, to Palti the son of Laish, who was from Gallim.

Having multiple wives was never ordained or condoned by God, but it became a common practice during this time.

- Deuteronomy 17:17 says for kings not to multiply wives for themselves. Perhaps David thought, I'm barely getting into addition, it's okay. But the Bible said from the beginning that a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife and they shall become one flesh. The bible is full of examples where having more than one wife was a detriment.

Saul had stepped in and most likely didn't want this family connection with David, so he gave Michal to another man. David will bring her back when he moves to the throne, but she will be jaded by that time and will die childless.

Points to Ponder:

1. God doesn't need your help to accomplish His will.
2. Just because you can act doesn't mean you should.
3. Offences often reveal what still needs refining.
 - Nabal didn't create David's anger – he just exposed it.