

## MESSAGE NOTES

### VALLEY OF VISION

#### Part 8: Changing Course

#### 1 Samuel 25

September 8/9, 2018

Pastor Daniel Hahn

1. Once upon a time ... (1 Samuel 25:1 – 2)
2. ... lived a very opposite couple (25:3).
3. Now the man was a fool so he acted like one ... (25:4 – 13)
4. ... but his wife was extremely good and kind (15:14 – 17).
5. She created a plan to de-escalate violence and protect everyone involved (25:20 – 22).
6. Because she approached the crisis at hand with humility and wisdom ... (25:23 – 31)
7. ... she saved her entire household (25:32 – 35).
8. Her foolish husband had one last party ... (25:36 – 38)
9. ... and then God brought about His own resolution of the matter (25:39).
10. In the end, selflessness, courage, and forgiveness won out (25:40 – 42).

Am I close enough to others in community that God can use them to speak truth into my life?

*Community is made up of people with all their richness, but also with their weakness and poverty, of people who accept and forgive each other, who are vulnerable with each other. Humility and trust are more at the foundation of community than perfection. More than anything else, God uses people to heal people. — John Ortberg*

Am I humbly seeking out and receiving wise counsel before making important decisions?

*... rebuke the wise and they will love you. Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still; teach the righteous and they will add to their learning. — Proverbs 9:8 – 9*

Am I a person who can be trusted to do and say what would inspire others to seek God's best for them?

*But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. — Hebrews 3:13*

*And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another — and all the more as you see the Day approaching. — Hebrews 10:24 – 25*

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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- Take some time to talk through or read through the story again in 1 Samuel 25.
- How does Scripture describe Nabal? How does scripture describe Abigail?
- Can you recall when you've had to step into a situation to clean up a mess created by someone else? How did you feel about it? How did it work out?
- Nabal had been served and protected by David's men, but then refused to help them from his own bountiful harvest. Can you think of any examples of how that might happen today?
- Naturally, David and his men are angry. Is there a situation you're facing now where someone else's self-centeredness or conceit is difficult for you? Why do you think selfishness in others is so hard for us to take?
- Abigail acts quickly and self-sacrificially. In what ways were her actions truly remarkable in that day (or any day for that matter)?
- What details about Abigail's approach to David seem significant and wise?
- How is David's response admirable?
- What do we discover about anger and forgiveness from this story? How would you state Romans 12:17-19 in your own words?
- What do you take from this story that feels instructive for your own life and current relationships?