

Nabal and Abigail

(Based on 1 Samuel 25)

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Samuel died and all the people of Israel gathered together to weep and to bury him.



David and his men lived in the wilderness near the farm of a wealthy man named Nabal. Nabal was evil and grouchy but he had a beautiful, wise wife named Abigail. He had 3,000 sheep and 1,000 goats.



David sent ten young men to ask Nabal for food. “Who is David? Will I take my food and give it to people that I don’t even know? I don’t think so!!!!!!” answered grouchy Nabal.



“Everyone grab your sword!” said David. “It was a waste of time that we guarded this man’s farm. We were good to him and he is treating us badly! I’m going to wipe him out and everyone that is with him.”



A young man begged Abigail to do something. “David protected us in the fields and our master Nabal is such a grouchy guy that nobody can talk to him! Something bad is going to happen to us if you don’t do something!”



Abigail packed 200 loaves of bread, corn, grapes, wine and meat. She got on a donkey and went to meet David and his men. She bowed to the ground on her face before David.



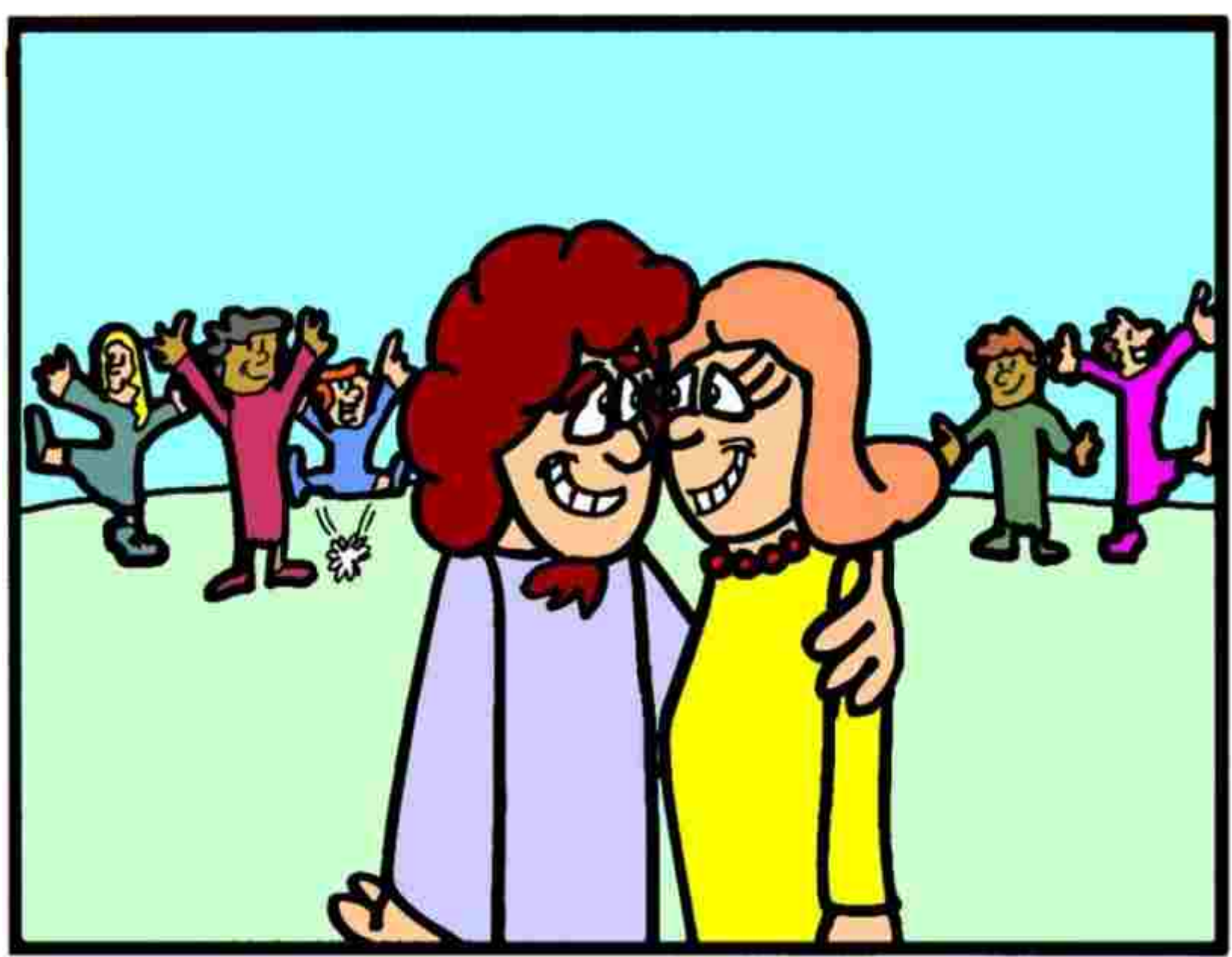
“David please don’t pay any attention to Nabal. His name means fool and that’s just exactly what he is. Please take this food and forgive. You’re going to be the King someday. You don’t want to kill innocent people. When the Lord makes you the king of Israel, then remember me.”



“Thank you Lord for sending this lady to stop me from killing innocent people,” said David. David received her food gifts and sent her home in peace.



When Abigail returned home she found that Nabal was having a party and he was very drunk. In the morning she told him what she had done. His heart stopped and he became paralyzed. Ten days later he died.



When David heard that Nabal was dead he gave praise to God. "God has paid him back for treating me bad," he said. He asked Abigail to marry him and she was very happy to become his wife.



Lord, help me to not be selfish like Nabal. I want to be a giving person and be rich in friends.