



Real Heroes Sermon Series - Week 4 Discussion Questions

Real Heroes - Abigail: Blessed Are the Peacemakers (1 Samuel 25 & Matt. 5:9)

Main Idea: While others ignore conflict and tensions, the real unsung hero boldly stands, speaks, and takes actions that lead to peace.

Leader Preparation Note - Pray for and lead for peace as your group meets

In a world filled with conflict and polarized relationships (from our home to community to world and even the church, God calls His children to be peacemakers. Because you are focusing on peace, be ready for the enemy to seek to sow tension and conflict in your group and pray against this in Jesus' name!.

ICEBREAKER AND WELCOME (10 Minutes)

- **The Question:** Who is a person in your life that has been a strong example of being a peacemaker and what life-patterns and examples did they model for you?
- *Leader Transition:* Today, we are looking at a beautiful example of peacemaking in a life and death situation. There are many lessons to learn from Abigail's example. If we enter this study with open eyes, ears, hearts, and minds, we can be used by God to bring peace into many places and relationships.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (30 Minutes)

Part 1: Seeing the Conflict and Turmoil Around Us

- **Read 1 Samuel 25:1-17 aloud.**
- *Context:* David and his men are in the wilderness and protecting the shepherds and flocks who belong to Nabal. Tension and conflict arise when Nabal mocks David and refuses to help his men.
- **Discussion:**

1. What are some of the sources of tension in this passage and what are common sources of conflict in our lives today?
2. Why is it important to identify the things that get in the way of peace?
3. Where do you feel conflict and turmoil in your life today and what is the source of these feelings and experiences?

Part 2: Learning From a Biblical Peacemaker

- **Read 1 Samuel 25:18-31 aloud.**
- *Context:* Abigail hears of the impending attack on her people and she steps in as a bold and strong peacemaker.
- **Discussion:**
 1. What does Abigail do and say that leads to peace rather than conflict?
 2. What do you learn from her example and how can you follow her example in life situations you face?

Part 3: Celebrating the Results of Peacemaking

- **Read 1 Samuel 25:32-39 aloud.**
- *Context:* Rather than war and death, peace and life come to the home of Abigail. Her peacemaking efforts have a powerful and immediate impact!
- **Discussion:**
 1. What changed in David because of Abigail's spirit, words and actions?
 2. How did Abigail's peacemaking impact David, her, and the people in her household?

PERSONAL APPLICATION & RESPONSE (15 Minutes)

- **Read Matthew 5:9 aloud.**
- *Leader Direction:* In the sermon, Pastor Kevin gave four direct action steps to help us become peacemakers:
 - *Open your eyes to identify places of turmoil.*
 - *Stand strong and take risks to bring peace.*
 - *Speak the truth with bold clarity.*
 - *Do all of this with a gracious heart and spirit.*
- **Group Sharing:**
 - As you think about an area in your life where you could be a peacemaker, which of these four steps do you need to take and how will you take it?

- How can your group members pray for you to become a more effective and intentional peacemaker?

CLOSING PRAYER TIME (5 Minutes)

Split into pairs or small groups of 3 to pray specifically for God's leading as you seek to become peacemakers.

- **Prayer Direction:** Pray for your partner to take meaningful and consistent steps toward becoming a peacemaker in a specific area of their life. Thank Jesus for how He made peace between you and your Father in heaven and praise Him for inviting you to share in the ministry of peacemaking.