

message OUTLINE

If You Only Knew... **SURVIVING WHEN MY SPOUSE IS A LOUSE**

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• NOTES •

TEXT: 1 Samuel 25

I. MY SPOUSE ISN'T A LOUSE TEST

Find a few moments to take the following quiz with your spouse, marking your answers on a separate paper. Rank each item with a 1, 2, or 3 according to how important the item is to you (1 being vital, 3 being not so important).

1. Have a neat, clean home
2. Keep family finances in order
3. Maintain correspondence
4. Have time with children (overseeing homework, team parent, etc.)
5. Be in good physical shape
6. Succeed in career
7. Have a personal ministry/involvement in church
8. Participate in extracurricular activities
9. Further education
10. Achieve more financial success
11. Have time with God
12. Have time with mate
13. Other

Compare lists. Talk about why you marked each item the way you did. If you marked something 1 and your spouse marked it 3, that's an emotional hot spot to talk through. If something important (i.e. paying the bills) is rated as a 3 by both of you, that's another important place to negotiate a new plan.

II. DEAR ABBY: THE ORIGINAL DESPERATE HOUSEWIFE

Nabal

David

Abigail

Evil
for
Good

Evil
for
Evil

Good
for
Evil

Maniacal

Predictable

Remarkable

"Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing... so that you may inherit a blessing." 1 Pet. 3:9

"They must turn from evil and do good; they must seek peace and pursue it." 1 Pet. 3:11

III. DAVID... THE SPOUSE & THE LOUSE

1 Sam. 25

1. David's Request: Shearing it for Sharing it v. 1-9
"...I hear that it is shearing time..." v. 7

2. David's Revenge v. 13
"...each of you strap on your sword!"

3. 'Abby's' Intervention: Surviving Relational Storms v. 14-31
"...please forgive your servant's presumption." v. 28

IV. 5 KEYS TO SURVIVING RELATIONAL STORMS

• **Communication**
"Abigail Acted Quickly." v. 18

"A wicked messenger falls into trouble, but a faithful ambassador brings health." Prov. 13:17

• **Consideration**
"She got off her camel & bowed down... with her face to the ground." v. 23

"...with all lowliness and gentleness, with long-suffering, bearing with one another in love..." Eph. 4:2

• **Compromise**
"Then David accepted from her hand what she had brought him..." v. 35

"...does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked to things of evil..." 1 Cor. 13:5

• **Commitment**
"Nabal... was in high spirits & very drunk." v. 36

"I hate divorce!" says the Lord." Mal. 2:16

• **Christ**
"Praise be to the Lord... who has sent you today..." v. 32

"May you be blessed for your good judgement..." v. 33