



## L1.50: David and Abigail

### 1 Samuel 25

*David was on the run from King Saul, and with God's help he and his mighty men managed to stay at least one step ahead of the jealous king. They hid in caves, fought against the Philistines, and always stayed on the lookout for Saul and his men. Though King Saul did not like it, most people knew who David was and that he was in line to be the next king of Israel, so they would help David with whatever he needed. One day, David and his men were hungry, so they stopped at the home of a wealthy man named Nabal who they knew would have plenty of extra food to spare. But, instead of helping them out, Nabal turned the men away and refused to share anything. Angry at Nabal's foolish decision, David told his men to get their swords ready. David and his men headed down to the household, swords in hand, when suddenly they were met by someone on the way who had an urgent request.*

#### Discuss:

- Who was Nabal? What does his name mean? Why do you think David and his men chose to stop at Nabal's house to get food to eat?
- Why do you think Nabal refused to share with David? Why was David so upset by Nabal's response?
- Who was Abigail? How did Abigail find out what was going on? What did she do when she found out what Nabal had done? What can we learn from Abigail's actions?
- How did Abigail act when she made her request? What did David do when she did?
- What happened to Nabal? What did David do when he found out?



[Moritz von Schwind](#) artist QS:P170,Q551901, [Moritz von Schwind - Abigail vor David - 13363 - Bavarian State Painting Collections](#), CC BY-SA 4.0

#### Memory Challenge:

1 Samuel 25:32

Then David said to Abigail: "Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, who sent you this day to meet me!"



## L1.51: King David

### 2 Samuel 5-8

*After many years of running from his enemy, David learned that King Saul and three of his sons, including David's beloved friend Jonathan, had died in a battle. Instead of rejoicing at the death of his enemy, David was very sad and mourned for Saul and for Jonathan. Though David was sad, God's promise finally came true and David became King of Israel. When David first became king, he ruled from a city called Hebron. David had his eye on another city where he wanted to set up his capital and build his palace. The name of it was Jerusalem which means "City of Peace". Jerusalem sat on a small mountain called Zion where David would build his city and where the King of Kings will one day return and build His own city of peace.*

#### Discuss:

- How old was David when he began to reign as king of Israel? How many years did he rule as king?
- David made a tabernacle for the ark of God. What was the ark and why do you think it was so important to David?
- How do you think David felt when he was finally able to bring the ark into the tabernacle in Jerusalem? What did he do? What are some ways that we can worship and praise God?
- David wrote a song about the ark being brought to the tabernacle (Psalm 105). Can you find the hymn we sing at church that is based on this psalm?
- God promised David that his throne would be established forever. What does this mean? What will David be doing in the kingdom?



[Gerard van Honthorst](#) artist QS:P170,Q314548  
[Gerard van Honthorst - King David Playing the Harp - Google Art Project](#), marked as public domain, more details on [Wikimedia Commons](#)

#### Memory Challenge:

2 Samuel 7:26

So let Your name be magnified forever, saying, 'The Lord of hosts is the God over Israel.' And let the house of Your servant David be established before You.



## L1.52: David and Mephibosheth

### 2 Samuel 9

*Jonathan, the son of Saul and David's closest friend, had a son named Mephibosheth who was only five years old when his father died in a terrible battle. The nurse who was taking care of little Mephibosheth panicked when she heard the news of the battle. She was scared of what might happen, so she picked him up to leave quickly, but in her hurry she dropped the young boy in such a way that his feet were badly hurt and he was lame for the rest of his life. The years went by, and one day, King David sat thinking about his friend Jonathan and wondered whether anyone in his family was still alive. That was when one of Saul's old servants told David about the son of Jonathan. David was eager to meet him and to honor the covenant he made with his friend many years before.*

#### Discuss:

- Why did David want to find out if anyone in Saul's family was still alive?
- Who was the person who told David about Jonathan's son?
- What did Mephibosheth do when he was first brought before King David? What are some ways that we can show respect to people who are in authority?
- The Bible tells us that Mephibosheth was lame in both of his feet. What do you think it would be like to be lame in both feet? What kinds of things would you not be able to do if your feet didn't work properly?
- What did David do for Mephibosheth? Why did he show kindness to him?



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#### Memory Challenge:

##### 2 Samuel 9:7

So David said to him, "Do not fear, for I will surely show you kindness for Jonathan your father's sake, and will restore to you all the land of Saul your grandfather; and you shall eat bread at my table continually."



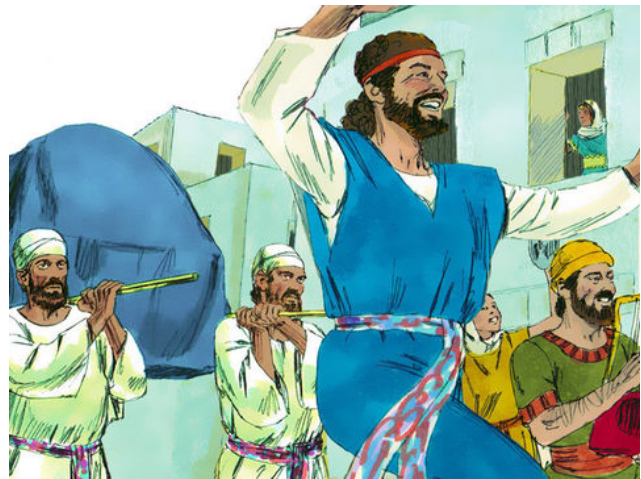
## L1.53: David and the Ark

1 Chronicles 15-17, 22

*King David had built a house for himself in the City of David which is in Jerusalem. Though he had a beautiful place to live, he was sad because the ark of the covenant, the special box which represented God's promises to Israel, was being kept in a man's home at a place called Kirjath Jearim. He wanted the ark to be put in its own special house. He knew that the ark represented God's dwelling place, so he wanted to build a house for God in Jerusalem to help show the people that God was with them. Before the house - the temple - could be built, David set up a special tabernacle in Jerusalem where the ark could be placed. He was very excited that the ark would finally come into the City of David, so he prepared a special celebration.*

### Discuss:

- Who were the only ones who were allowed to carry the ark of the covenant? What was the special way the ark was to be carried?
- What kind of instruments did David want to accompany the ark being brought into the city? What do you think the music sounded like?
- What was David doing to worship God when the ark was brought into the city of David? What are some ways that we can worship God?
- What did David give all the people so they could join in the celebration? (1 Chronicles 16:3)
- What is a psalm? How do we use psalms and music in church today?
- What was the covenant God made with David about the temple that he wanted to build?



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### Memory Challenge:

2 Chronicles 15:3

And David gathered all Israel together at Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the Lord to its place, which he had prepared for it.