



EXPERIENCING GOD CAMPAIGN | UNIT 9: EXPERIENCING GOD THROUGH OBEDIENCE
TOPIC: OBEDIENCE REQUIRES ADAPTATION – PASTOR ALTON TRIMBLE
BIBLE STUDY & LIFE GROUPS | WEDNESDAY, JULY 30, 2025

I Samuel 25:1-44 (NLT)

1. GET DETERMINED TO WIN NO MATTER WHAT THE COST IN THE MIDST OF THE CRISIS.

- a. Exchange good insight with God's insight.

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT)

Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. ⁶ Seek His will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

Isaiah 43:19 (NLT)

For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland.

- b. Develop a winner's diet.

Philippians 4:13 (NLT)

For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.

Psalms 37:23-24 (NLT)

The LORD directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives. ²⁴ Though they stumble, they will never fall, for the LORD holds them by the hand.

Psalms 55:22 (NLT)

Give your burdens to the LORD, and he will take care of you. He will not permit the godly to slip and fall.

Colossians 3:15 (NLT)

And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful.

- c. Don't assess yourself or others by who you or they were, but by who you or they have become.

I Samuel 25:23 (NLT)

When Abigail saw David, she quickly got off her donkey and bowed low before him.

1 Samuel 25:32 (NLT)

David replied to Abigail, "Praise the LORD, the God of Israel, who has sent you to meet me today!"

- d. I must embrace who I am in Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

Romans 8:1-4 (NKJV)

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who^[a] do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. ³ For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

1 Peter 2:9 (NLT)

But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

Hebrews 4:16 (NLT)

So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.

Colossians 3:3 (NLT)

For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God.

Ephesians 3:12 (NLT)

Because of Christ and our faith in him, we can now come boldly and confidently into God's presence.

2. DEAL EXPEDITIOUSLY WITH THE CRISIS.

1 Samuel 25:18a (NLT)

Abigail wasted no time.

- a. Prepare yourself so that you don't become a part of the problem.

I Samuel 25:17 (NLT)

You need to know this and figure out what to do, for there is going to be trouble for our master and his whole family. He's so ill-tempered that no one can even talk to him!"

- b. Determine what is needed to deal with the new requirements.

I Samuel 25:18 (NLT)

Abigail wasted no time. She quickly gathered 200 loaves of bread, two wineskins full of wine, five sheep that had been slaughtered, nearly a bushel of roasted grain, 100 clusters of raisins, and 200 fig cakes.

- c. Enlist the assistance of key people where needed and provide them with needed instruction.

I Samuel 25:19 (NLT)

She packed them on donkeys and said to her servants, "Go on ahead. I will follow you shortly." But she didn't tell her husband Nabal what she was doing.

- d. Operate on a need-to-know basis with others.

I Samuel 25:19 (NLT)

She packed them on donkeys and said to her servants, "Go on ahead. I will follow you shortly." But she didn't tell her husband Nabal what she was doing.

3. YOU'VE GOT TO FACE YOUR CHALLENGE TO FIX IT.

I Samuel 25:20 (NLT)

²⁰ *As she was riding her donkey into a mountain ravine, she saw David and his men coming toward her.*

- a. You walk by faith and not by sight.

II Corinthians 5:7 (NKJV)

⁷ *For we walk by faith, not by sight.*

- b. See what is not apparent.

II Corinthians 4:18 (NLT)

¹⁸ *So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.*

- c. Humility is the way to favor.

1 Samuel 25:23 (NLT)

²³ When Abigail saw David, she quickly got off her donkey and bowed low before him.

James 4:6b (NLT)

^{6b} As the Scriptures say, “God opposes the proud but favors the humble.”

Proverbs 3:34 (NLT)

³⁴ The LORD mocks the mockers but is gracious to the humble.

1 Samuel 25:23 (NLT)

²³ When Abigail saw David, she quickly got off her donkey and bowed low before him.

4. LEAD, TAKE CHARGE, AND ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY.

1 Samuel 25:24b (NLT)

²⁴ She fell at his feet and said, “I accept all blame in this matter, my lord. Please listen to what I have to say.

Galatians 6:5 (NIV)

⁵ For each one should carry their own load.

- a. You’ve got to acknowledge your failures to own your success.

1 Timothy 1:15 (NKJV)

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.

- b. Have a divinely inspired word that your problems cannot resist.

1 Samuel 25:25-31 (NLT)

²⁵ Please pay no attention, my lord, to that wicked man Nabal. He is just like his name—his name means Fool, and folly goes with him. And as for me, your servant, I did not see the men my lord sent. ²⁶ And now, my lord, as surely as the LORD your God lives and as you live, since the LORD has kept you from bloodshed and from avenging yourself with your own hands, may your enemies and all who are intent on harming my lord be like Nabal. ²⁷ And let this gift, which your servant has brought to my lord, be given to the men who follow you. ²⁸ “Please forgive your servant’s presumption. The LORD your God will certainly make a lasting dynasty for my lord, because you fight the LORD’s battles, and no wrongdoing will be found in you as long as you live. ²⁹ Even though someone is pursuing you to take your life, the life of my lord will be bound securely in the bundle of the living by the LORD your God, but the lives of your enemies he will hurl away as from the pocket of a sling. ³⁰ When the LORD has fulfilled for my lord every good thing he promised concerning him and has appointed him ruler over Israel, ³¹ my lord will not have on his conscience

the staggering burden of needless bloodshed or of having avenged himself. And when the LORD your God has brought my lord success, remember your servant.”

2 Timothy 3:16 (NLT)

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.

Psalms 119:105 (NLT)

Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path.

Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

- c. Watch your enemies praise God for you.

1 Samuel 25:32-35 (NLT)

David replied to Abigail, “Praise the Lord, the God of Israel, who has sent you to meet me today! ³³Thank God for your good sense! Bless you for keeping me from murder and from carrying out vengeance with my own hands. ³⁴For I swear by the Lord, the God of Israel, who has kept me from hurting you, that if you had not hurried out to meet me, not one of Nabal’s men would still be alive tomorrow morning.” ³⁵Then David accepted her present and told her, “Return home in peace. I have heard what you said. We will not kill your husband.”

Psalms 126:6 (NLT)

They weep as they go to plant their seed, but they sing as they return with the harvest.

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are the challenges facing you that you have avoided facing or dealing with?
 - Please identify and share your hesitancy.
 - Please discuss with your life group how you can become more proactive as it relates to challenge management by utilizing the prep suggestions of a-c., in your outline.
2. What role did humility play in Abigail’s crisis management?
 - Please discuss with specificity
 - How might humility play a role in your own crisis management strategy? Please discuss.

3. What does it mean to lead, take charge, and accept responsibility?
 - Please discuss thoughts and feelings about the same!
 - Share a time when in a crisis you did these three things!
4. What are your thoughts about the a. bullet point under number 4. Lead, Take Charge, and Accept Responsibility?
 - Please discuss and share your experiences in this regard?