

Lesson No. (43)

Treating others well

Abigail and David

References

1 Samuel 25.

Notes for Servants

- ★ Treat others well, be gentle, and love everyone, like your Lord and Saviour whose heart loved all and considered everyone equal.
- ★ Are you a good example for your students? Do you treat them well even when they behave badly?

Objectives

General: Love others and treat them kindly.

Specific: The children will be able to:

- A. Understand the story;
- B. Learn that a polite, gentle answer solves a lot of problems;
- C. Help others when in need.

Bible Verse

" Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."

(Matthew 22:39)

Teaching Aids

1. Felt figure and flannel board.
 2. Video.
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Instruction

- (1) Review last week's lesson.
- (2) Who remembers the verse?
- (3) Remind the children about the church occasions for the coming week.
- (4) The servant may ask the following questions: Do you know anything about David? What do you know about him? Who remembers one of David's famous psalms? Who can recite this psalm?
- (5) Teacher should prepare the appropriate questions to emphasize the objectives during the lesson.

Story Time

David was an honest, gentle shepherd. He had six hundred men who accompanied him. David and his men used to protect their neighbour shepherds' sheep and help them, because they obeyed the scripture that says, "Thou shalt love your neighbour as yourself."

There was a man called Nabal who was from the town of Maon. He was a very rich man, the owner of three thousand sheep and one thousand goats. David and his men helped Nabal's shepherds to look after their flocks. The day came for the men to shear the sheep. The custom was that after shearing the sheep, the owner of the sheep would make a party and a big feast. He used to invite all those who helped him in taking care of his sheep to come. Nabal made a big feast (describe it). He should have invited David and his men and given them their wage, but he didn't. Meanwhile, David was in need of money and hoped that Nabal would send him his share.

David sent ten of his men to Nabal to ask him to send him even a small portion of his wage. Nabal grew angry and raised his voice. He mocked David, called him inappropriate names and drove the men away. David was angry and said, "It is our right. Nabal must give us our wage. We have to go to him and take it. Some of us will go to him and the others must stay here." David and some of his men went to him, but he did not want the men to quarrel with one another. One of Nabal's men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, that Nabal mistreated David and his men. Abigail was a wise and intelligent woman who knew how to do good. She prayed and requested the Lord to guide her. Abigail quickly prepared a present. (1 Samuel 25:18) (Read this part to the students). She ordered a servant to go on ahead and meet David. David had reached a group of men coming to him.

"Master David," the servant said, "this is Lady Abigail's present." Then Abigail came and bowed to David saying, "Forgive me, for I did not have the honour to see your men when they came. Nabal is mistaken." David said to her, "You are a blessed woman. Thank you."

Abigail went back happily. She did not tell her husband anything the first day as he was drunk from the big celebration. The next day, after he had sobered up, she told him everything and how she saved him from death. Nabal was sad. He suffered a stroke and was completely paralysed. Some ten days later, the Lord struck Nabal and he died. As a result, Abigail became a widow. When David heard of this, he sent a proposal of marriage to Abigail because she was a wise woman. Abigail agreed and was comforted after the death of her husband. She was a good wife to David and helped him a great deal.

Discussion

- 1 - Follow up the story by talking about it with the children.
- 2 - Continue the discussion while they do the activity.

Learning Activities

Activity Sheet.