

LEVEL UP

Part 2: Our Responses

LIVING IN A HOSTILE LAND

- Our current culture...
 1. Angry
 2. Easily offended
 3. Insulting
- Our call to be counter-cultural
 1. To make a difference we'll have to be different - including our responses
 2. Practicing James' counsel will cause you to stand out (***James 1:19-20 NKJ***)

WHEN DAVID DIALED BACK HIS RESPONSE

- David was rewarded evil for his good
 1. He provided protection but was scorned by Nabal
 2. David was angry - his plan was to kill every male in Nabal's house
- Abigail to the rescue with some very wise counsel (***1 Samuel 25:26, 28-31 NKJ***)
 1. She reminds David that he is a better man than his plan
 2. She reminded David he is connected to the Lord
 3. Abigail reminded David of God's promise to him - a bright future
- David was wise enough to listen (***1 Samuel 25:32-33 NKJ***)
 1. He recognized Abigail was sent from God and dialed back his response

LEVEL UP YOUR RESPONSES

- All of us have exposed areas
 1. Past hurts and experiences that create weak spots
 2. Don't recount / replay the hurt - no looping
- Remind ourselves of God's truth
 1. We are called to better (***Ephesians 4:1-3 NKJ***)
 2. We are connected to Him
 3. God's blessings are stronger than man's curses (***1 Peter 3:8-9 NKJ***)
- Guard your heart to guard your response
 1. Not just what we let in
 2. It's what we let out (***1 Peter 3:10-11 NKJ***)
- Be willing to receive wise counsel
 1. God's word, the Holy Spirit — sent to help us and teach us to respond