



# Near and Now

*When My Calling Requires Courage – Abigail*

*By Dr. Apu Seyenkulo*

## Warm-up Question

*When have you wanted to intervene in a difficult situation, but it seemed beyond your reach?  
Give examples.*

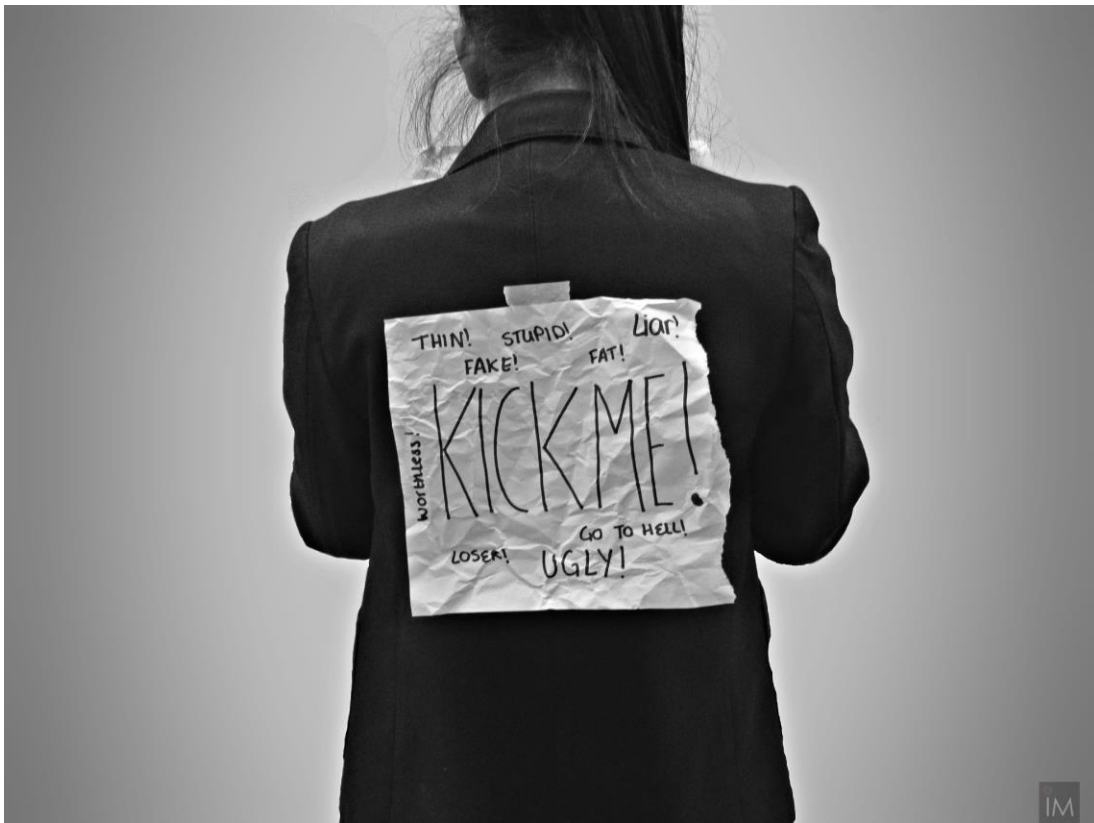


Photo by Ilyaza on [Unsplash](#)

## Discussion Questions

1. What do you see in this image?
2. What do you feel looking at this image?
3. What stories from your own life does this image bring to mind?
4. What stories of the world does this image bring to mind?

## Please Forgive The Trespass Of Your Servant

Read [1 Samuel 25:2-43](#)

### Bible Story Reflection

Abigail's story in 1 Samuel 25:2-43 is a remarkable testament to courage, wisdom, and intervention in the face of impending disaster. Nabal, her husband, had insulted David, who was on the verge of taking revenge. Despite being aware of her husband's foolishness, Abigail took it upon herself to act. She gathered provisions and went to meet David, humbling herself and asking for forgiveness on behalf of her household.

Abigail's actions demonstrate a remarkable sense of discernment and a willingness to step forward in a difficult situation. She recognized the grave consequences that could arise from her husband's actions and took immediate action to prevent bloodshed. In her humility, she acknowledged the offense committed and sought reconciliation.

This story not only highlights Abigail's individual courage but also positions her as an influential figure in David's life. Her intervention not only averted disaster but also allowed for a transformative encounter between Abigail and David. Through her actions, Abigail revealed her deep understanding of the consequences and her desire to do what is right. She exemplified the courage to stand up for justice and made a significant impact in diffusing a potentially volatile situation.

Abigail's story speaks to us today, reminding us that we, too, have the potential to intervene in challenging circumstances. It serves as an inspiration to seek wisdom, discernment, and the courage to act when we witness injustice or impending harm. Abigail's example encourages us to follow her footsteps of humility, acknowledging our role in reconciliation and striving to make a positive difference in the world.

As we reflect on Abigail's story, let us be inspired by her courage, wisdom, and intervention. May we seek discernment, cultivating the ability to recognize when our intervention is needed. Let us embrace the call to act with humility and strive to make a positive difference, reflecting the character of God in our actions. Through God's grace and empowerment, we have the potential to become catalysts for change, bringing healing and transformation to our communities and the world around us.

### Discussion Questions

1. How do you think Abigail felt knowing that her husband's actions could bring them harm?
2. Have you ever felt compelled to intervene to prevent a potential disaster? Share your experience.
3. What traits do you admire in Abigail's character, and why?
4. Reflecting on the story, what can we learn about the importance of humility and seeking forgiveness?
5. How does Abigail's intervention reflect God's desire for justice and reconciliation?
6. In what ways do you believe God empowers individuals to intervene and make a positive impact in challenging circumstances?
7. Share an example of a courageous intervention you have seen or experienced. What was its impact?
8. How can we cultivate the discernment necessary to recognize when intervention is needed?
9. Discuss the potential risks and challenges involved in intervening. How can we navigate them with wisdom and grace?

10. How can we encourage one another to step out and intervene when it is our call to do so?

### **Activity Suggestions**

1. Write a positive message on a sheet of paper, for example: “Hug Me”, “Free High Fives” or Just Smile”. Place this sheet of paper on the front of your shirt, engage with others and spread God’s grace and love.
2. Think of someone in your life who could benefit from a courageous intervention. Write them a letter expressing your concern and offering support and encouragement.
3. Spend time 5 minutes in silent reflection, seeking God’s guidance on situations where intervention may be needed. Pray for courage and discernment to intervene when called upon.

### **Prayer Concerns**

Those facing challenging situations that require courageous intervention, individuals in need of reconciliation and forgiveness, those striving for justice and peace.

### **Closing Prayer**

Give me courage to intervene, O God, when that is your call for me. In the name of +Jesus, Amen.

