

## Life lessons from Abishag

*"The girl was very beautiful, and she looked after the king and took care of him. But the king had no sexual relations with her." -1 Kings 1:4*

There are times in life when we find ourselves in thankless situations and occupations. Whether it is an assignment at work, responsibility at home, or a unique role at church, we all like to be valued and appreciated for what we do. What happens however when your hard work goes unnoticed? How do you respond? It has been said, "Nobody notices what I do, until I don't do it." The example of Abishag is a reminder that no matter what we do, whether we are acknowledged or not, always \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_.

"If you live by the cheers, you'll die by the boos."

### Did you know?

- \*Abishag's personal name means, "My father strayed" or "My father is a wanderer"
- \*Abishag was a \_\_\_\_\_
- \*She was a member of King David's \_\_\_\_\_.
- \*She served King David until he died.
- \*Her story is told in 1 Kings 1:1-4; 1 Kings 2:13-24

### Abishag's Role 1 Kings 1:1-4

As we continue in the narrative of Israel, we come to the end of King David's rule. According to 1 Kings 1:1, he is described as \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. So his advisers recommend getting him a young virgin to serve him, keep him company and take care of his needs.

Verses 3-4 (NLT) They searched throughout the land of Israel for a beautiful girl, and they found Abishag from Shunem and brought her to the king. The girl was very beautiful, and she looked after the king and took care of him. But the king had no sexual relations with her.

### What current occupation would you say best describes what Abishag was doing?

---

---

Today's caretakers do all this and more....

Access medical needs

Prepare care plan

Assist with basic needs

Provide \_\_\_\_\_

Help with housekeeping

Monitor medications

Prepare \_\_\_\_\_

Provide transportation

Help with mobility

### Can you think of any other thankless occupations?

---

---

**What can we do to avoid being discouraged in the midst of a thankless role/responsibility? James 3:8-14; Colossians 3:23; Ephesians 6:7**

---

---

\*Guard your \_\_\_\_\_

\*Serve with \_\_\_\_\_

**Abishag's Worth 1 Kings 2:13-24**

After the death of King David, we read in 1 Kings 2 that Adonijah son of Haggith approached Bathsheba requesting Abishag be given as his \_\_\_\_\_.

**What did Adonijah see in Abishag?**

---

---

Deep down inside Adonijah believed the kingship was rightfully his because he was the \_\_\_\_\_. So he devised a plan to marry one of David's concubine/harem to generate a revolt and usurp the throne.

Adonijah didn't value Abishag as a wife because he loved her but because he wanted to be the next \_\_\_\_\_. Sadly, he wanted his will more than the Lord's will and as a result it costed him his life (1 Kings 2:23-24).

**What did Solomon see in Abishag?**

---

---

King Solomon on the other hand saw Abishag as a means of \_\_\_\_\_ the kingdom (1 Kings 2:22). Not only that but he also saw that his brother Adonijah could not be trusted after he had violated the oath in 1 Kings 1:51-52.

**As we consider the differences in Adonijah and Solomon and how they valued Abishag, what do you think your worth is in God's eyes? Isaiah 43:2; 1 John 4:19**

---

---

\*God \_\_\_\_\_ you

\*God is \_\_\_\_\_ you

\*God will \_\_\_\_\_ you

**What would you say to someone who is struggling with low self-worth?**

---

---

**As you reflect on this study, what is the the greatest lesson that you are willing to share with someone else?**

---

---

---

***Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God. But made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bond-servant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. -Philippians 2:5-8***