

You can be...



Foolproof!

How To Handle a Fool

- I. Five methods of dealing with a fool that **do not work**.
 - A. PLACATING
 - B. POUTING
 - C. BRIBING
 - D. NAGGING
 - E. SURRENDER

How To Handle a Fool

II. A biblical strategy for dealing with a fool.

- A. Come to grips with a sobering truth.
- B. Become a prayer warrior.

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need.

~ Philippians 4:6

If you need wisdom, ask our generous God,
and he will give it to you.

~ James 1:5

How To Handle a Fool

II. A biblical strategy for dealing with a fool.

A. Come to grips with a sobering truth.

B. Become a prayer warrior.

C. Refuse to participate in any foolish behavior.

Do not answer a fool according to his folly,
or you yourself will be just like him.

~ Proverbs 26:4

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. 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.

As she was riding her donkey into a mountain ravine, she saw David and his men coming toward her. David had just been saying, “A lot of good it did to help this fellow. We protected his flocks in the wilderness, and nothing he owned was lost or stolen. But he has repaid me evil for good. May God strike me and kill me if even one man of his household is still alive tomorrow morning!”

~ 1 Samuel 25:18-22

When Abigail saw David, she quickly got off her donkey and bowed low before him. She fell at his feet and said, “I accept all blame in this matter, my lord. Please listen to what I have to say. I know Nabal is a wicked and ill-tempered man; please don’t pay any attention to him. He is a fool, just as his name suggests. But I never even saw the young men you sent.

“Now, my lord, as surely as the Lord lives and you yourself live, since the Lord has kept you from murdering and taking vengeance into your own hands, let all your enemies and those who try to harm you be as cursed as Nabal is. And here is a present that I, your servant, have brought to you and your young men.

~ 1 Samuel 25:23-27

“Please forgive me if I have offended you in any way. The Lord will surely reward you with a lasting dynasty, for you are fighting the Lord’s battles. And you have not done wrong throughout your entire life.

“Even when you are chased by those who seek to kill you, your life is safe in the care of the Lord your God, secure in his treasure pouch! But the lives of your enemies will disappear like stones shot from a sling! When the Lord has done all he promised and has made you leader of Israel, don’t let this be a blemish on your record. Then your conscience won’t have to bear the staggering burden of needless bloodshed and vengeance. And when the Lord has done these great things for you, please remember me, your servant!”

~ 1 Samuel 25:28-31

David replied to Abigail, “Praise the Lord, the God of Israel, who has sent you to meet me today! Thank God for your good sense! Bless you for keeping me from murder and from carrying out vengeance with my own hands. For 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.” Then David accepted her present and told her, “Return home in peace. I have heard what you said. We will not kill your husband.”

~ 1 Samuel 25:32-35

Do not answer a fool according to his folly,
lest you also become like him.

~ Proverbs 26:4

You can be...



Foolproof!