

Vancouver Chinese Evangelical Free Church
July 24, 2022 – ESC Worship Service



Call to Worship

Worship in Song

Scripture Reading – 1 Samuel 25:2–37

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon: “Beauty or the Beast”

Response in Song

Offering and Prayer for the Offering

Doxology

Community Time and Announcement

- Welcome to our church! If you like us to connect with you, please email us at hello@vcefc.org and someone from our care team will reach out to you.
- “Summer Learning As A Community” – a video series on “Psalms – A Devotional Exposition” By Dr. Bruce Waltke of Regent College is from June 5 to September 25. Every Sunday 11:30–12:30. Class held in-person in the Fellowship Hall or on zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7876891881>
- Sister Carrie Tang has agreed to serve as an administrative assistant on a temporary part-time basis. Beginning immediately, she will assist with various administrative tasks. Your support for Carrie will be much appreciated.

Meet our Missionaries: Evangelical Free Church of Canada Missions

Benediction

Romans 15:5-6

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. -Amen

Sermon Reflection Questions

In Christ each of us has both beauty inside us through the Holy Spirit but because of sin, we also have a “beast” in us. It is a constant struggle between the spirit and the flesh that Paul often writes about (Romans 8:5).

In 1 Samuel 25, we see David in a time of weakness. When he was rejected and demeaned by Nabal, he acted rashly and planned to take vengeance into his own hands. However, through the beauty of Abigail’s character and wisdom, she was able to turn David’s heart back toward God. David responded to Abigail’s wisdom and turned vengeance over to God, who does indeed enact justice on the foolish Nabal.

1. Consider a time in your life when you were offended or rejected. How did you respond? Why?
2. Although Nabal’s “beast” in the story was greed while David’s “beast” was anger, how are these “beasts” similar and comes from the same heart?
3. Abigail was able to turn David’s heart back to God by reminding him who he is, God’s anointing on him, and God’s grace in his life. How might remembering of your identity in Christ, and his grace in your life help you when you are angered by other’s offences or disrespect toward you?
4. Who are the people in your life from whom you can receive correction and redirection?

5. Would you be willing to risk a relationship or your own comfort to confront a friend or family member who is making a poor choice? How can Abigail's story encourage us in this area?

6. Consider the pace of your life and time you spend in God's Word. Do you manage these areas in such a way that your heart is soft towards God's leading? If not, what needs to change?