

# 1 Samuel 25:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And David sent out ten young men, and David said unto the young men, Get you up to Carmel, and go to Nabal, and greet him in my name:

## Analysis

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**And David sent out ten young men, and David said unto the young men, Get you up to Carmel, and go to Nabal, and greet him in my name:**

David's approach demonstrates proper protocol. Sending ten representatives shows respectful formality—not demanding personally but requesting through delegation. The Hebrew 'ushe'altem lo leshalom bishmi' (ask him about peace/welfare in my name) employs standard greeting conventions. 'In my name' indicates David claimed relationship enough to warrant formal inquiry about Nabal's wellbeing. The instruction to 'greet' (sha'al leshalom) literally means 'ask about peace'—a blessing formula initiating relationship. David's careful approach models how those in need can make requests with dignity while honoring potential benefactors.

## Historical Context

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Delegations for formal requests were standard protocol in ancient Near Eastern diplomacy. Ten men represented significant embassy—neither too few to appear casual nor too many to seem threatening. The greeting formula was customary for initiating positive exchange.

## Related Passages

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**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. How do you approach others when you need to make requests?
2. What does David's formal protocol teach about maintaining dignity in dependency?

## Interlinear Text

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נִשְׁלַח	יְהוָה	אָמַר	לִבְנָעָרִים	עָשָׂה	יְהוָה	נִשְׁלַח
<b>sent out</b>	<b>And David</b>	<b>ten</b>	<b>unto the young men</b>	<b>said</b>	<b>And David</b>	
H7971	H1732	H6235	H5288	H559		H1732
לְבִנָעָרִים	עַל	לְבִנָעָרִים	כִּרְמָה לְהָ	אֶל	לְבִנָעָרִים	לְבִנָעָרִים
<b>unto the young men</b>	<b>Get you up</b>	<b>to Carmel</b>	<b>and go</b>	<b>to Carmel</b>	<b>and go</b>	<b>to Nabal</b>
H5288	H5927	H3760	H935	H413		H5037
וְשָׁאַלְתָּם	בְּשָׁמֵי	לְשִׁלּוֹם:				
<b>and greet</b>	<b>him in my name</b>					
H7592	H0	H8034	H7965			

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