

# 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'altam 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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וַשְׁלַח	דָּוִד	עָשָׂה	לְנָעָרִים	וַיֹּאמֶר	דָּוִד
sent out	And David	ten	unto the young men	said	And David
H7971	H1732	H6235	H5288	H559	H1732
	לְנָעָרִים	עַל	כַּרְמֵל	וּבָאתָ	אֶל
	unto the young men	Get you up	to Carmel	and go	H413
	H5288	H5927	H3760	H935	H5037
וַשְּׂאֲלֵתֶם	לִּי	בְשֵׁם יְיָ	לְשָׁלוֹם:		
and greet	H0	him in my name	H7965		
H7592		H8034			

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