Bible Name: Abigail   **Language: Hebrew**   **Pronunciation: ab-ee-gah'-yil**

Meaning: The name 'Abigail' means 'My Father is Joy.' It is derived from two Hebrew root words. The first is 'Ab' meaning 'father'; this basic Hebrew meaning can extend outside the contemporary application of a traditional 'father' to include a 'counsellor', 'judge', 'leader' or 'source.' The second root word is 'Giyl' meaning 'joy', 'rejoice', or 'delight.' This word can also denote 'spinning around in a circle'; a Hebrew phrase often used to indicate 'time' or a person's 'age.' It can also be used in certain circumstances to denote a 'contemporary' (someone born at the same time).

Alternative meanings include: 'Father of Joy', 'My Father is My Joy', 'My Father is Joyful', 'Source of Joy', 'Source of Delight', 'Father of Delight' or 'My Father is My Delight.'