



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What is a “renaissance man” and do you think David is one?

Why did Samuel “mourn over Saul?” (For help, read 1 Samuel 9:1-2, 10:1 & Chapter 15) Do you think that Samuel made the wrong choice when he anointed Saul? Why or why not?

Why was Samuel afraid of Saul? Why were the elders afraid of Samuel? (1 Samuel 16:2-4) Do you think the pervasiveness of fear says anything about the reign of Saul? Have you ever been fearful because of something you sensed God was asking you to do?

In verse 7, God says to Samuel, “Man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” What does that mean? What effect does that have on your perspective of people, choices, or situations?

When David stood before Saul, God said, “he is the one.” (16:12). Do you think that God has a specific calling for all individuals? Have you ever sensed a nudge from God to do some specific thing? Or, have you ever sensed that God was calling someone else to a task – and told them?

In what ways do you think events like in 1 Samuel 16:12 affect the one called, or the ones who witness (sense) it? How important is affirmation in our relationships?

Read John 15:19. What impact does it have on you to know that God has chosen you? Spend time reflecting/praying together as a group on that thought.



DAVID CHOSEN

1 Samuel 16:1-13 PAGE:???

INTRO TO DAVID

“Renaissance Man” is a term used to describe someone who is diverse, with many interests and knowledge of broad subject matter. Renaissance: Awakening of 14-17th centuries.

☑ David is a warrior, poet, musician, lover, friend, leader, and passionate worshipper of God.

☑ He is Bo Jackson, Eric Clapton, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Jack Welch, DC Talk, General Norman Schwarzkopf, Mikhail Baryshnikov, & John Lennon all rolled into one – he is the most interesting man on earth.

David epitomizes what a Godly man, human being could look like today. He has the capacity for war (conquering) nyet has a tender core for God and people, includes men & women alike. (Jesus: love God & neighbor) Ac 13:22 ‘I have found David, son of Jesse a man after my own heart’ (Paul preaching in Paphos)

But, David also provides a realistic picture of what it looks like to follow Christ as a human being.

He’s flawed, he is real. He is probably best known for the highlight reel of his life. Maybe some are familiar with his low points. But, most of his life is lived in the seams between. The mundane of his life is where the real story lies.

The study of his life provides opportunity to discuss how we deal with our own shortcomings. It is not either/or, but both/and. (we are “fearfully & wonderfully made”)

David’s story draws us in because it’s our story.

OT TIMELINE

Nation of Israel’s Leadership:

1. Patriarchs: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph
2. Judges
3. United Monarchy: Saul, David, Solomon (coalesced)
4. Divided Monarchy: Split Nation, Numerous Kings

Inserting ourselves into the story as Saul’s reign is unraveling.

People clamor for leadership, (by design?) but many times look at the wrong things. Individuals can have all the right stuff, actually be the best choice, yet through



character flaws disqualify themselves for that which God actually called them. (Why Paul said, "I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified")

1 Samuel 16:1 The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king."

- 1) Samuel is lamenting Saul's choices & likely his part in choosing Saul.
- 1) "Horn with oil" is needed for the ritual of affirmation of the new king.

2 But Samuel said, "How can I go? Saul will hear about it and kill me." The LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' 3 Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate." 4 Samuel did what the LORD said.

- 2) "Sacrifice to the Lord," as prophet, Samuel would perform religious functions regionally.
- 2) Samuel is fearful of retribution by Saul, but see vs. 4. Nice that God gives Samuel a bit of cover. Isn't that how it works? Was consecration of Jesse's family public? Even if not, these things get out. Things we think will remain secret rarely do.

Samuel acts even though he is afraid. Connect vs. 2 with 4.

Fear is not necessarily doubt, but doubt is normal too. Sometimes we are called to act in some way that we do not doubt God, but we're scared just the same.

1. Can fear obstruct us from following God?

How do you suppose he felt about this task? What treachery would Saul implement once he heard his throne was threatened? "Yeah but." Have you ever been afraid to follow Christ? Or, have you ever felt God calling you to a task that caused you fear? How have you dealt with that? Risk, obedience to scripture, uncomfortable situation...?

When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, "Do you come in peace?" 5 Samuel replied, "Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

- 4) Why is everyone always afraid of the Pastor? ☒



5) Appears there are several events here; public sacrifice for the town; all citizens need to consecrate themselves prior to this sacrifice; “you consecrate yourselves” (to citizens) & “then he (Samuel) consecrated Jesse & his sons.” Separately, & participates in the private consecration. Important, because it indicates that anointing of David is not public.

Consecrate: dedicate. Preparatory event/act. “ladders.” There’s the event, but seems to maximize there is prep-work done.

2. Should tangible acts of consecration be part of our spiritual life?

It’s good to consider some of the OT concepts, consecration. In what ways are we consecrating ourselves before God in preparation for church or worship?
James 1:21 get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent, and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

What habits are we incorporating in order to prepare for the spiritual or daily events?

Women’s retreat, my sermons, Church? Daily vocation?

6 When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed stands here before the LORD.” 7 But the LORD said to Samuel, ‘Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

6) Samuel (once again-Saul) mistakes outward appearance for the characteristics to look for in a King

See vs. 7 for God’s input

3. What values do we utilize in our choices?

Assumptions & prejudices affect our choices. (#2 service on Easter/baptism) God vs. man in choices. You would think that Samuel would have learned his lesson about outward appearances, since Saul was chosen on that basis and what a train wreck he was turning out to be.

“Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

Not necessarily a moral commentary (solely). Can also be acknowledgement of a fundamental difference between humans & God. As such, an understanding of who we are. Outward appearance is important to us, is that OK? Normal? How does this balance with the spiritual/inner qualities?



We think of choices: Our next Pastor? But: what about your next job, who you date or why you date, your lifemate, a business decision, college you choose, our to-do list for today, “Man looks on the outward appearance, but God looks at the heart” indicates there’s a spiritual component to everything we do. And, that in regard to our choices, they may be in conflict.

Life is a series of choices. These lead us to success or away from it. They lead us closer to the kingdom of God or further away. Saul looked like the right choice wasn’t; David looked like the wrong choice but was.

Gut check: How much consideration do we give to the spiritual?

8 Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, “The LORD has not chosen this one either.” 9 Jesse then made Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, “Nor has the LORD chosen this one.” 10 Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, “The LORD has not chosen these.” 11 So he asked Jesse, “Are these all the sons you have?” “There is still the youngest,” Jesse answered, “but he is tending the sheep.” Samuel said, “Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.”

11) Note David is not even considered; didn’t make the “interview list.” But, cross reference with the next vs:

12 So he sent and had him brought in. He was ruddy, with a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; he is the one.”

He is the one. Interesting that David seems to have the same outwardly desirable qualities that Saul has – yet his inside is as desirable as well. ruddy, with a fine appearance and handsome features. So, outward impressiveness is NOT a disqualifier.

Not even his family thought he needed to attend. This is an interesting choice based on background: what would likely be the proper resume for king? Military. Public administration. Shepherd! What does that say about God may value in who leads his children?

Psalm 78:70 He chose David his servant and took him from the sheep pens; 71 from tending the sheep he brought him to be the shepherd of his people Jacob, of Israel his inheritance. 72 And David shepherded them with integrity of heart; with skilful hands he led them.

72) Shepherd. Integrity. Skilful. (Leader qualifications?)



God uses our current situation to prepare us for the future plan. Shepherd? Tedious, care, guardian, worship, parallels. King is secular job too. God's calling for that as well?

It will be interesting the things it appears David is learned as a shepherd that prove useful in his future vocation. We'll try to point those out as we travel through his life.

13 So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came upon David in power. Samuel then went to Ramah.

He was different.

4. In what ways has God "chosen" us?

1 Corinthians 7:17 Let each of you lead the life to which God has called you

Vocational vs. General Calling:

1. Vocational Call: how we generally think about it. What is God's will for me?

"YOU are the one?"

King? No, that one's mine!

2. General/Ordinary Call: What we KNOW to be God's will:

Joh 15:19 you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you

1Th 1:4 For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you,

Col 3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

This is event will sustain David in the future. How powerful affirmation can be.

It is 15 years before it comes to fruition. (more on that later)