

LifeGroup Study

David: Shepherd

SERMON SUMMARY

God directs Samuel to anoint David, a young shepherd, as Israel's future king. This move rejects Saul, the current King, and bypasses David's older brothers. God does this because He values the heart over appearance. David's selection reveals God's choice of the unlikely for His purposes and points to Jesus' greater anointing.

KEY VERSE

1 Samuel 16:7

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 people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

SERMON NOTES

<https://bible.com/events/49500058>

DISCUSSION GUIDE

1. Read 1 Samuel 16:1-13. What insights, comments or questions do you have about this week's sermon?
2. Share a time when you felt overlooked or like the "least likely" in a situation (like David as the younger brother), but God or others chose you for something meaningful.
3. Read 1 Samuel 16:7. In what ways have you judged others based on outward appearances, success, or status? What changes when we focus on the heart like God does?
4. David was anointed for a specific role despite his humble beginnings. Reflect on a moment when you sensed God's "anointing" or calling in your life—perhaps through a gift or opportunity.
5. In the gospels Jesus will assess the hardness or openness of people's hearts (Mark 3:5, Matthew 13:15). Reflect on a time when your heart felt "hardened" toward God or others.
6. Read Romans 12:3. What would putting this verse into practice look like in your life?
7. David's family didn't initially see his potential, but God did. Who in your life might need encouragement or affirmation to see how God is working in them? How could you call that out this week?
8. What's one step that you can take this week to embrace focusing on your heart rather than on external validation?

CLOSING PRAYER

Invite each group member to reflect on one word or phrase that describes how they want their heart to grow closer to God (ex. Trust, love, humility, peace, patience, self control).

After a couple of minutes of silent reflection go around the circle and have each person share their word or phrase (or say pass if you'd prefer to not share).

End with this prayer: "Lord, just as You chose David for his heart and anointed him, and as Jesus saw the hearts of those He called, we thank You for choosing and anointing us through Your Spirit. Help us grow in the ways we just shared and make our hearts like Yours. In Jesus's name, Amen."