



August 28th

1 Samuel 16

Leaders God Looks For

Summer Series: Life of Samuel

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Here's some questions to get us started

- Have you ever been punished for something you didn't do?
- Have you ever made a judgment call that turned out to be wrong?
- Have you ever made that stereotype towards someone that put them in a box?

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Realistically we have all looked at the external to “size up people”

- People that you come across in traffic

Such a typical _____ driver!!!

- People in retail stores
- Customer service
- Friends
- Homeless
- Obese
- Your Kids? Parents? Or other family?

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Maybe I am alone....

What about conclusions towards other Christians

“He’s fake” “surface level” “not worth knowing”
“hypocrite” “no one can be that good” “he’s not
a serious Christian”

How about non-Christians!

Do you look down on the people you work
with?

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Maybe it is people in the media that we draw conclusions about their character, heart, level of compassion, etc.

What about making people a idol?

Have you ever looked up to someone for the wrong reasons?

If only if I could be like _____!!!

What is the Standard that we are measuring by?

Fame? Appearance? Wealth? “coolness”?

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We all have to admit that at some point we all have drawn quick conclusions about people

God's word does have some instruction for us!
This is where we find ourselves in our story of Samuel

Last week....

- God has rejected Saul as King!
 - Because of
 - Despising the word of God
 - Not Obeying the Commands of God
- God regrets making Saul King!

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Samuel says to Saul in Chapter 13

“how foolish” Samuel exclaimed. “You have disobeyed the command of the Lord your God. Had you obeyed, the Lord would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. But now your dynasty must end, for the Lord has sought out a man after his own heart. The Lord has already chosen him to be king over his people, for you have not obeyed the Lord’s command.” NLT

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This is a foreshadow to what happens in Chapter 16

Now the LORD said to Samuel, "You have mourned long enough for Saul. I have rejected him as king of Israel, so fill your flask with olive oil and go to Bethlehem. Find a man named Jesse who lives there, for I have selected one of his sons to be my king." ² But Samuel asked, "How can I do that? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me."

"Take a heifer with you," the LORD replied, "and say that you have come to make a sacrifice to the LORD. Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you which of his sons to anoint for me."

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So Samuel did as the LORD instructed. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town came trembling to meet him. “What’s wrong?” they asked. “Do you come in peace?”

“Yes,” Samuel replied. “I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Purify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” Then Samuel performed the purification rite for Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice, too.

When they arrived, Samuel took one look at Eliab and thought, “Surely this is the LORD’s anointed!”

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But the LORD said to Samuel, “Don’t judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The LORD doesn’t see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

Then Jesse told his son Abinadab to step forward and walk in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, “This is not the one the LORD has chosen.” Next Jesse summoned Shimea but Samuel said, “Neither is this the one the LORD has chosen.” In the same way all seven of Jesse’s sons were presented to Samuel. But Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.” Then Samuel asked, “Are these all the sons you have?”

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“There is still the youngest,” Jesse replied. “But he’s out in the fields watching the sheep and goats.” “Send for him at once,” Samuel said. “We will not sit down to eat until he arrives.” So Jesse sent for him. He was dark and handsome, with beautiful eyes.

And the LORD said, “This is the one; anoint him.” So as David stood there among his brothers, Samuel took the flask of olive oil he had brought and anointed David with the oil. And the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David from that day on. Then Samuel returned to Ramah.

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Samuel drew a conclusion based on 'Appearance' and 'Height'

- This happened within a minute of seeing Eliab

God's response 'you make decisions and conclusions based appearance but I look at the Heart!

- What man looks for is not what God desires
- God measures by a standard that we can't see
- Like using a ruler to determine how much water there is

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To us it appears that God is choosing the weak and the unlikely, when in fact He is doing it on purpose

- 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 “Remember, dear brothers and sisters, that few of you were wise in the world’s eyes or powerful or wealthy when God called you. Instead, God chose things the world considers foolish in order to shame those who think they are wise. And he chose things that are powerless to shame those who are powerful. God chose things despised by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important. As a result, no one can ever boast in the presence of God.

God has united you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made him to be wisdom itself. Christ made us right with God; he made us pure and holy, and he freed us from sin. Therefore, as the Scriptures say, “If you want to boast, boast only about the LORD.”

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Examples of Biblical Characters that were
“unlikely” by our standards!

David

- The youngest of all his brothers

Paul

- He persecuted Christians
- Was the ‘Pharisee of Pharisees’

Jesus

- Of poor descent
- Was thought to be born out of wedlock
- They were anticipating a King to wage physical battle

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How then does this passage instruct us?
First – The reality is that we can't see the things that God sees.

The bible says that “You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down;”

We are completely exposed before God
- he sees the intent and desires of a person's heart

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We can try to hide before God but really it is no use

Because of this we **MUST** examine our hearts!!!

Am I the type of person that God is looking for?

Would I measure up?

What are my motives?

Am I acting humble, repentant, devoted, obedient?

*Saul wasn't any of those things!

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God showed the type of king he was looking for in Chapter 13 “the Lord has sought out a man after his own heart”

Again in 16 “Man looks at the outward appearance but the Lord looks at the heart!”

What is God looking for? What is He examining?

What is He desiring? Like David.....

“those who are after the Heart of God”

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The Question that comes out of this passage is
**HOW DO I BECOME A PERSON
AFTER GOD'S HEART?**

The great thing is..... God sought out David and
David responded

Since Jesus – God has been seeking out people to
follow him

- Some to be leaders of his people like David
- Others devoted followers who will obey Him

AND he is asking us to respond!

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This passage teaches us that God's standard is not the standard that we have.

Ultimately God's standard is perfection!

none of us measure up to that standard!

The GOOD NEWS is that through the Grace of Jesus Christ we have been provided salvation AND we have been given His Spirit to enable us to pursue the heart of God!

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It takes response!

being here means that God is pursuing you
it is an ongoing thing

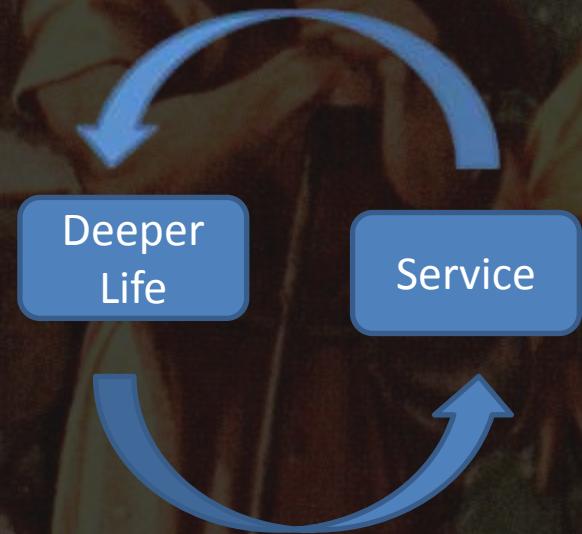
The New Testament uses Language of.....
putting on the clothes of Christ

This allows God to see us through the lens of
Christ because we are made clean through
salvation

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That response is ongoing

A.B. Simpson believed that a
Deeper walk with Jesus was
Brought by service to God,
And that service brought about
A deeper walk with him



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As a Church what we want to be about is making 3-dimensional followers of Jesus who seek to

Discover the heart of Jesus

Demonstrate the Heart of Jesus

AND

Duplicate the Heart of Jesus

What if we were a people who passionately pursued God's heart? Imagine.....

Being a light to the community

A witness to our coworkers, family, and friends

The Love that we would have to show people throughout the world