

PEFC Weekly Family & Small Group Study Guide

July 3, 2022

Paynesville Evangelical Free Church
God Uses Ordinary People to Build His Kingdom
Faithful King Chosen
I Samuel 16:1-13



Big Idea

We Glorify the Lord, Not with Outward Appearances but With Heartfelt Obedience!

1. The Lord receives glory when we act in obedience.
2. We are easily distracted by the outward appearances of this world.
3. The Lord sees and knows the deepest desires of our heart.

Introduction

Think of an experience when something did not turn out as it first appeared. How did you react to the situation? Did it impact how you evaluated things in the future?

Bible Study Questions

Have someone read I Samuel 16:1-13.

What do you think was occupying Samuel's thoughts and mind when God approaches him in 16:1? How did God transition his thinking? How are we sometimes like Samuel (think about times of disappointment or disillusion)?

Why was Samuel hesitant to obey God? Do we face risks when we choose to obey God? Why & How? How might God's response to Samuel help to assure and strengthen our resolve to obey? What irony do you see between verse 4 (when Samuel obeyed) and verse 2 (when he was hesitant)?

Why did Samuel assume that Eliab was the one God had chosen? Where did we see a similar dynamic previously in I Samuel? Contrast God's evaluation of Jesse's sons' verses Samuel's. How do we sometimes react like Samuel?

What does Jesse's hesitancy to think of David (as well as his role) tell you about his estimation of him? Is the description of David in verse 12 a surprise? Why or why not? What does this story teach us about how God uses ordinary people?

Previously (10:10, 11:6) we saw God's Spirit come upon Saul. Compare and contrast this to God's Spirit coming on David (verse 13). What is significant that we see related to David (and not Saul)? What is the significance of the Spirit coming on David (verse 13) and departing from Saul (verse 14)?

Review Hannah's song of praise in chapter 2. How does this reflect David's anointing as King? How does David's anointing (as reflected in Hannah's song) point toward Jesus?

Next Steps

Consider an area that God is calling you to obedience. List the things that you fear obeying God will cost you, and in light of Samuel's example, resolve to obey.

Make a list of some "heart qualities" that God is looking at when he uses us.

Learn to see neighbors, those at work, school, church etc., not on externals but inward heart qualities.

Prayer

Thank God for choosing us even though we may lack the physical and material standards of this world. Share life needs within your group and pray for one another. Remember that prayer requests need to remain confidential and not be repeated outside your group without permission.