

The Connection

▶ May 17, 2020

Together

Weekly Bible Verse: "I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful" - Psalm 139:14 (NIV)



Together we can continue to make sure that children hear the stories of the Bible and of God's love and promises! Together let's keep doing kid's ministry at the time our kids need it most.

Chosen by God

Bible Focus: 1 Samuel 16

Samuel was very sad. Saul was the king of Israel and Saul was not obeying God. Samuel knew that Saul was not a good king. It made Samuel sad to see Saul disobey God. God said to Samuel, "Saul does not want to obey me. I have chosen a new king and I want you to anoint him. He lives in the town of Bethlehem and he is the son of a man named Jesse. Get an empty horn that has been cut from a cow. Fill the horn with oil and go to Bethlehem."

Samuel was afraid. King Saul would be very angry if he heard that Samuel was anointing a new king. What if he got mad at him and tried to kill him. The Lord told Samuel not to be afraid. He told Samuel to take a special sacrifice to Bethlehem and everyone would just think he was making a normal trip. This sounded like a good idea to Samuel so he took his sacrifice and travelled to Bethlehem. No one knew that Samuel was going to anoint a new king.

When Samuel arrived in Bethlehem he told everyone that he would be making a special sacrifice to the Lord. He invited Jesse and his sons to come. Before they came,

Jesse and his sons washed and got dressed up. All of the sons wanted to look their best. When Samuel saw Jesse's sons he was very happy. They were fine looking men. Jesse's oldest son, Eliab, was very tall and handsome. Samuel thought that Eliab would be a good king. But the Lord told Samuel, "This is not the one I want to be king. He is handsome and tall but the Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

So if Eliab was not to be the king, then which of Jesse's sons would be the next king of Israel? Jesse told his next son to come forward and stand in front of Samuel. His name was Abinadab. Maybe Abinadab would be the next king. "No," said Samuel, "the Lord has not chosen Abinadab." One by one all of Jesse's sons stood before Samuel. The Lord had not chosen any of them to be the new king of Israel. Samuel did not understand. The Lord had told him that one of Jesse's sons would be the new king.

"Jesse, are these all of your sons?" asked Samuel. Jesse answered, "These are my seven oldest sons. I do have one more son. He is my youngest and he is out in the pastures taking care of my sheep. His name is David." Samuel was surprised. Could God



want a young shepherd to be the next king of Israel? Samuel told Jesse to send someone to get David. When David arrived Samuel saw that he was healthy and handsome. But that was not all. The Lord told Samuel that this was the new king. And the Lord does not look just at the outside of a person. He looks at a person's heart. The Lord knew that David had a good heart. "Arise and anoint him," the Lord said to Samuel. "He is the one." Samuel anointed David. He took the horn full of oil and poured some on David's head. From this day on the Spirit of God came upon David. David loved God for the rest of his life. Even though David was chosen as the new king, it was not time yet for him to take King Saul's place. David went back to tending his father's sheep. When the right time came for David to reign as the new king, then the Lord would tell him.

Additional Pages:

Coloring Page - Anointing of David

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To anoint: the official way that a person was shown to be chosen by God was to be anointed. Samuel used a hollow horn of a cow to store the oil in for this journey.

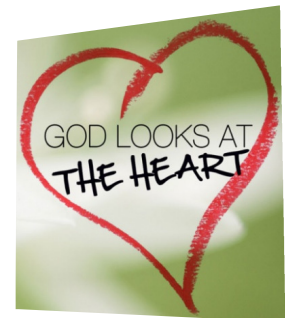


"I Wonder" questions for Today's Lesson

I wonder how the other brothers felt when Samuel anointed David?

I wonder if David was surprised?

I wonder how Jesse felt when David was anointed to be the next king?



Would You Rather . . .

Here are some great discussion starters to enjoy at mealtime (or anytime).

- Would you rather live on the ark with all the stinky animals, or be stuck in the belly of a large fish?
- Not knowing the outcome, would you rather be swallowed by a whale like Jonah (Book of Jonah) or thrown into the lion's den like Daniel (Daniel 6)? Why?
- Would you rather see the burning bush talk to Moses (Exodus 3) or the fire consume Elijah's altar in front of the prophets of Baal? (1 Kings 18) Why?
- Would you rather be an Israelite wandering in the desert (Numbers 14-33) or an Israelite taken captive to Babylon (book of 2 Kings or Esther)? Why?
- Would you rather see David defeat Goliath (1 Samuel 17) or Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego survive the fiery furnace (Daniel 3)? Why?
- Would you rather see Jesus feed the 5,000 (Mark 6: 30-44) or calm the storm (Mark 4:35-41)? Why?



Give thanks

David was an ordinary boy, the youngest kid in his own family. He probably didn't think he was special at all, but God did. And God thinks each of you are pretty special too! Let's take time to thank God for a few things:

- Thank God that He has chosen you and loves you just the way you are.
- Thank God that He has made a way for us to choose life because of Jesus' death, burial and resurrection! Ask Him to keep teaching you about Himself and how much He loves you!
- Thank Him for the ways you can help others right now.
- Ask God to show you how He can use you right now.
- Thank Him for the talents and abilities He has given you to serve Him in incredible ways...even the ability to smile at someone or speak a kind word.