

DAVID – Lesson #3

GOD CHOOSES A KING

- SCRIPTURE:** 1 Samuel 16
- MEMORY VERSE:** 1 Samuel 16:7 “...for *the LORD seeth* not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.
- VISUALS:** Flashcards: 3-1 – 4-1
- MAIN TRUTH:** God wants you to have a heart that loves Him.
- BASIC OUTLINE:**
- I. INTRODUCTION
 - A. BEGINNING STATEMENTS
 - B. TRANSITION
 - II. PROGRESSION OF EVENTS
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I. INTRODUCTION

A. BEGINNING STATEMENTS

Have you ever been the last person chosen to be on a team? Sometimes, that can make you feel very sad. But maybe, there was a good reason for being chosen last.

B. TRANSITION

This happens to the young man in our Bible lesson today. Let's listen to learn why he was chosen.

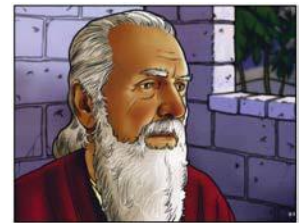
II. PROGRESSION OF EVENTS

When our story ended last time, Samuel was sad about Saul. What had Saul done that made Samuel sad? What was God's punishment? Yes, Saul had disobeyed what God told him to do, and so God had said that Saul's kingdom would end and that He would choose a new king.

For many days, Samuel was sad and cried for Saul about what had happened because he had disobeyed God.

FLASHCARD 3-1

Then God spoke to Samuel, "How long will you be sad and mourn about Saul, since you know I have rejected him from ruling as king over Israel? Fill your container with oil and go, for I will send you to Jesse who lives in Bethlehem. I have chosen Myself a king from one of his sons."



"How can I go?" Samuel asked. "If Saul hears about it, he will kill me." When Samuel had anointed him as king, it seemed like Saul wanted to do what was right. Now Samuel was afraid Saul would kill him for obeying God!

Because Saul's heart had changed, he made many wrong choices.

S, PAU Rom. 3:12

You and I make wrong choices too. That is called sin. The Bible says, ". . . *There is none that doeth good, no, not one.*" There is no person who never sins. We have each thought, said, and done things that do not please God. (*Ex. Maybe you decide to hang out with the kids who do bad things and then you do those things too and you get in trouble.*) Because sin is so serious to God it has to be punished. The punishment for sin is being separated from God now and forever. Choosing to sin is always wrong.

Saul had made many wrong sinful choices. He had changed so much that now Samuel was afraid Saul would try to kill him.

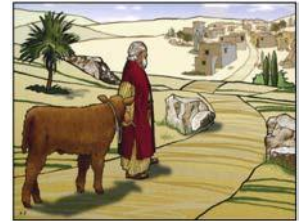
God had a plan to keep Samuel safe. "Take an animal with you and tell everyone, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Then call Jesse to come to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do next. You must anoint unto Me the one I name for you."

So Samuel stopped sitting sadly in his house and got ready to travel to the city of Bethlehem, where he would find this man Jesse.

IH Have children get ready to travel: pack bag, put on cloak, get animal. Walk in place.

FLASHCARD 3-2

When the important men of Bethlehem saw Samuel coming with his animal for the sacrifice, they were afraid. They knew Samuel was God's man and that he spoke God's words. Had they done something wrong, and now God was going to punish them?



“Have you come here in peace?” they asked Samuel.

“Yes, in peace,” Samuel answered. “I have come to make a sacrifice to the Lord.”

Remember, what we learned in our last lesson? In those days, when God's people sinned they had to kill an animal and offer it to God as a covering for the wrong things they had done.

This sacrifice had to be made to cover sin until the day when Jesus, the one and only Saviour, would come to pay for sin forever.

O Jesus, God's Son, is the one and only Saviour. He is the only Person who has ever lived without sinning. He obeyed God perfectly, always, every time, and in all ways. Jesus is the only One who could pay for your sin and mine.

But until the Saviour came, God's people had to sacrifice an animal to cover their sin.

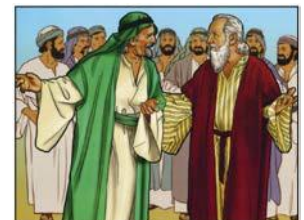
Samuel told the leaders of Bethlehem to wash their clothes and get ready for the sacrifice. He also called Jesse and his sons to get ready and come to the sacrifice too. Afterwards, they would have a special meal together, just as they did on the day Samuel had anointed Saul to be the king.

But this day, Samuel had to keep what he was doing a secret. If Saul knew that Samuel was there to find the man God had chosen to be king instead of him, Samuel and the new king would be in danger.

FLASHCARD 3-3

When everyone had gathered, Samuel must have looked carefully at the seven sons of Jesse who stood around him.

God had picked one of them to be the next king, but which one? Then Samuel saw Eliab, Jesse's oldest son. He stood tall and must have looked impressive and important.



IH For each of the seven sons, have children hold up that many fingers and then shake head “no” at the proper time.

Surely it's him! Samuel thought. *The one the Lord has chosen must be standing here before me.*

But somehow God spoke to Samuel, probably in a voice that only Samuel could hear. “Don’t just look at his face or how tall he is, because I have refused to choose him. The Lord does not see the way man sees. Man looks at the way a person looks on the outside, but God looks at who a person really is in his heart.”

Tall or short, handsome or plain didn’t matter to God. He was looking at the heart of Jesse’s sons.

MT



God knows how you feel in your heart and who you really are on the inside. When you have trusted Jesus as your Savior and you know He has forgiven you of all your sins, God wants you to have a heart that loves Him. These children have joyful hearts that love Jesus and are singing as they thank Him for His love for them. The important thing is to love God from your heart. It is not the way you look on the outside.

God reminded Samuel that He was looking at the hearts of Jesse’s sons, not how handsome they were.

Jesse called his second son, named Abinadab, and told him to stand in front of Samuel. Even though Jesse probably didn’t understand that Samuel had been sent by God to anoint Israel’s new king, he must have realized that Samuel was looking for one of his sons for some important reason.

When Samuel saw Abinadab, God spoke to him again. Samuel shook his head. “The Lord has not chosen this one, either.”

Jesse told his son, Shammah to walk by Samuel next. “The Lord has not chosen this one, either,” Samuel said again.

The fourth son came to Samuel and then the fifth and the sixth and the seventh. But each time, Samuel looked at Jesse and shook his head. God had not chosen any of those seven to be king.

Samuel must have looked around, confused. There were no sons left, but God had said the new king would be someone in this family. “Are all your children here?” he asked Jesse.

IH

Have children ask their neighbor, “*Are all your children here?*”

“Well, no,” Jesse must have answered thoughtfully. “There is still the youngest. He is out taking care of the sheep.”

“Send someone to get him,” Samuel commanded. “We will not sit down and have our meal until he comes.”

FLASHCARD 3-4

Why was the youngest son of Jesse out with the sheep? He was a shepherd. Maybe his father gave him that job because nobody else wanted to do it. He must have led the sheep to good places for them to eat, to still water for them to drink, and at night a safe place for them to sleep. It must have been lonely out there in the fields with only sheep around him. The Bible tells us that sometimes it was dangerous, too, because a lion or a bear would attack the sheep, and the shepherd would have to fight for them. David, this young son of Jesse, must have learned a lot about loving God and trusting Him as he did his job taking care of these sheep. He must have been a good shepherd.



That reminds me of another person who called Himself the Good Shepherd. His name is Jesus.

P, E**1 John 1:7**

Jesus came to give His life for the sheep, you and me. Jesus gave His life when He let men nail Him onto a cross made out of wood. He gave His precious blood and died to take the punishment for the wrong things you and I and all other people have done. The Bible says, “. . . *The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin.*” After Jesus died, He was buried in a cave. Three days later He arose and came alive again. Jesus is alive today and He will never die again. Jesus did all of this for us.

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, is the only One who could take the punishment for our sin.

I am sure that David was a good shepherd who took good care of his sheep.

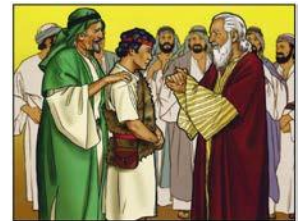
Soon Samuel saw David hurrying into town.

IH

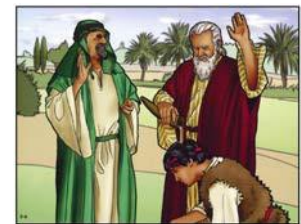
Have children run in place at their seat.

FLASHCARD 3-5

It wasn't long before David was standing in front of the man of God. He probably was surprised that he had been called to this important sacrifice. The Bible says that David was a good-looking person with a beautiful expression on his face. As Samuel looked at him, God spoke to him again, “Arise, and anoint him as the king for this is he.”

**FLASHCARD 3-6**

Samuel picked up his hollowed-out animal horn that he used for holding his oil. As his father and all his brothers stood watching, Samuel poured his oil all over David's head.



He did not tell David why he did this. He probably did not want to put David in danger by letting anyone else know what this special oil meant. Maybe even Jesse and his other sons did not understand what Samuel had done. But somehow, David must have known that God had chosen him to be king instead of Saul.

The Bible tells us that, as the oil ran down David's hair and face, God's Holy Spirit came upon David. God was going to be with him in a special way from that day until the end of his life.

God did this for David because He loved him.

G Do you know that God loves you? Even when you are not an easy person to love, God still loves you. You could never do anything that would make God stop loving you.

God loved David, and He gave him His Holy Spirit to be with him.

God gave His Holy Spirit to be with David, but He took His Holy Spirit from Saul. God was no longer with Saul to help him. Instead, God sent an evil spirit to Saul to trouble and worry him. Saul probably became angry or sad whenever this happened.

Saul's servants saw how troubled their king was, and they knew it was a punishment from God. One day, they came up with an idea to try to help Saul.

"My lord, the King," they said, "let us now go look for a man who is talented at playing the harp. Then when the evil spirit from God is troubling you, he can play music on the harp and help you feel better."

IH Like the servant, have children repeat, *"Let us go look for a man."*

"Find this man who can play well and bring him to me," Saul answered.

One of the servants thought he knew a man who would be just right for the job. "I have seen the son of Jesse who lives in Bethlehem and is good at playing the harp," he suggested. "He is a mighty and brave man, a man of war, wise in knowing the right thing to do, a good-looking person, and God is with him."

That must have sounded good to Saul, so he sent messengers to Jesse. "Send me your son, David, who is with the sheep."

So Jesse gathered together some food to give as a present to King Saul, loaded it up on a donkey, and sent David with it to Saul's palace.

IH Have children gather food into bags and load up a donkey.

FLASHCARD 4-1

When David stood before the king, Saul was very pleased with him. He sent a message to his father asking him to let David stay with him for a while.

Saul was pleased with David because of the things he could do, the way he played the harp and the way he looked. God was pleased with David because of what was in his heart.



MT, PAS

If you have trusted the Lord Jesus as your Saviour and know He has forgiven you, God wants you to have a heart that loves Him. Who you really are in your heart is the most important thing to God. God said to Samuel, in **1 Sam. 16:7**, “. . . *The LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.*” How do you feel in your heart about God? (*Ex. Do you love Him? If you do, do you spend time talking to Him by praying and listening to Him by reading His words in the Bible?*) As you do these things it will help you have a heart that loves God more and more.

David had a heart that pleased God. Saul was also pleased with David. David began to serve and help Saul. Whenever the evil spirit from God was making Saul feel troubled, David would take his harp and play beautiful music. A harp is a small instrument with strings that David had learned to play.

IH

Have children pretend to play a harp as they softly sing “God Is So Good.”

The music David played would calm Saul and make him feel better again. Then the evil spirit would leave him.

Probably Saul did not even realize that this young shepherd would someday be the king instead of him.

III. CLIMAX

God had secretly chosen the last of Jesse’s sons to be the new king because David had a heart that loved God.

IV. CONCLUSION**A. CLOSING STATEMENTS**

David was now living in Saul’s palace and helping him.

God could see David’s heart, and He knew that he was the man He wanted to be king over His people.

B. BRIDGE

God can see your heart too, boys and girls. Maybe you look pretty good on the outside. Maybe all your friends think you’re a good person. But what does God see in your heart?

C. INVITATION

L
Rev. 3:20

God sees your heart and mine and the wrong things we have done. The Bible says, “**Behold, I (Jesus) stand at the door** (the door of your heart) **and knock, if any man** (woman, boy, or girl) **hear my voice, and open the door** (invite, ask), **I will come in to him....**” When you believe that Jesus died on the cross and came alive again for the wrong things you have done, you can invite Him to come and live in your heart and be your personal Saviour. If you are ready to invite Jesus to come into your heart and be your personal Saviour from sin, He will come in! This is a wonderful promise He made to you and me. Let’s bow our heads and close our eyes. If you are ready to make this decision, will you show me by looking up at me? Thank you. You may all open your eyes. *(Tell them when to come and where to go for counseling.)*

D. CHALLENGE

MT



But maybe you know that you have already accepted Jesus as your Saviour and He has already forgiven you of all your sin. Then remember, God wants you to have a heart that loves Him. Remember how God said to Samuel in **1 Samuel 16:7**, “... **The LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.**” If you love God, you should spend time praying and reading His words. Are you a person who loves God and wants to love Him more? If you are, will you tell God that right now? He wants to hear you say that to Him. I’ll give you a minute to talk to God quietly, and then I’ll finish our prayer time. *(Allow time for them to pray quietly.)* (Teacher close in prayer.)