

Pursuing the Heart of God

Chosen by God

Section 1

1 Samuel 16

David is called “a man after God’s own heart.” That testimony is an amazing, humbling, and challenging testimony. But David is a familiar character. We know a lot about his life. We know him as a warrior and as a king. We know him as an ancestor to the King of Kings, Jesus. More interesting though, is how much we know about his failures. David was an adulterer, liar, horrible father, and murderer. These are not character traits that we would expect for someone described as “a man after God’s own heart.” So, it leads us to the question, what does it mean to be a man or woman after God’s own heart? In “Pursuing the Heart of God”, we will explore David’s life and discover the character traits of David that made him a “man after God’s own heart”.

1 Samuel 13:14 But now your kingdom shall not continue. The Lord has sought out a man after his own heart, and the Lord has commanded him to be prince over his people, because you have not kept what the Lord commanded you."

Acts 13:22 And when he had removed him, he raised up David to be their king, of whom he testified and said, 'I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will.'

1 Samuel 16:1 The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul, since I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons."

- Anointing is symbolic of _____ choice.
- The people had already picked their king, _____, but he had now been rejected by God and God would now have a man after his own heart, _____.

1 Samuel 16:7 But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart."

- God does not look on _____ but on the _____.

We often get caught up on what we look like to the world around us. We wear a mask because we want people to see us in a specific light. We want to look the part, but God knows the real us. We can come to church, work, or even family gatherings looking as if we have it all together when the truth is it is just a mask. But God knows each and every one of our hearts and yet he still loves us.

1 Samuel 16:9-10 Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen these."

- God does the _____.
- God gave his _____ to _____ his choice.

David becomes the anointed of God. He still respects Saul as God's anointed until Saul's death. David has ultimate respect for God's man and does not seek what is his until God gives it to him. David had 2 opportunities to kill Saul and take the throne. (1 Samuel 24, 1 Samuel 26) But David did not touch Saul. David knew that God's timing was better than his own.

The spirit of God came upon him. “The anointing of God is the guiding, protecting, empowering, and success producing work of the Spirit of God with reference to David as the chosen King.”¹ David’s power to accomplish what God had given him came from God.

You may think that David is different from you. But there is one thing you have in common with David if you are a child of God. You are chosen. That’s right. Just as David was chosen to be king, you are chosen to be a child of The King and an heir.

¹ (Chapman, 1999)

Discussion Questions

For each passage below, discuss these questions:

- What are we chosen to be?
- What are we chosen to do?
- What does this look like when lived out practically in everyday life?
- How can I grow in this area?
- Where in my life is this truth evident?

Ephesians 1:3-4

1 Peter 2:9

2 Thessalonians 2:13-15

2 Timothy 2:4

John 15:16

Ephesians 2:8-10

2 Timothy 2:11-13

1 Peter 2:12

2 Thessalonians 2:17

How should we respond to the truth that we have been chosen?

When we love as those who are chosen by God, what should be evident to those around us?