



Lesson 7

Read 1 Samuel 15:35–16:1

1. The Lord has decided to end the reign of King Saul due to Saul's tragic failure to obey. How do the emotions ascribed to both Samuel and the Lord in verse 15:35 connect to the story of Noah and the flood? See Gen 6:5–8. Why is this important?

Read: 1 Samuel 16: 1-13

2. Even the prophet Samuel was relying on physical appearance to judge someone's fitness for ministry, in this case for the position of King of Israel! How does the Lord correct Samuel, and how is this a correction for us?
3. How would you feel if you were one of the older brothers who was passed over by Samuel only to see David, the youngest brother anointed?
4. Why is it important that the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David? Where else in Scripture do we see the Spirit of God filling people for specific tasks?
5. Samuel is called by the Lord to transition leadership from Saul to David. Describe the ways this transition is difficult for Samuel. Why do you think transitions and changes in leadership in any context is challenging?

Read: 2 Samuel 7: 1-17

6. What are David's plans and what is his motivation?
7. What do you notice about the relationship between David and Nathan? Why is it important that Nathan proves himself to be a genuine prophet of the Lord and that David listens to him? After you ponder this, read 2 Samuel 12:1–15.

8. What is the first promise that the Lord makes to David? How is this similar to His promise to Abraham in Genesis 12:1–3?

9. God reminds David of His faithfulness toward him (v. 8-9) before declaring new promises. Why do you think God does this?

10. Take a moment, sitting before the Lord, and consider the ways God has been with you, faithful to you and has guided you. Write down what comes to mind.

11. God uses David’s “training ground” years from being a shepherd, defeating Goliath and to serving the jealous King Saul to shape David into “a person after God’s own heart.” What is one way God has positively shaped you because of adversity in your life?

12. How is the promise of an offspring (or seed or descendant) from David’s very own body connected to the offspring promises to Abraham and to Eve?

Read 2 Samuel 7: 18-29

13. David truly magnifies the person and work of God in his prayer (v. 18-29.) What does this prayer teach us about the nature and meaning of prayer?

Read Matthew 1:1

14. Based off what we have learned this year in our study, why is it important that Jesus is from the “line of David, son of Abraham?” Why would Matthew begin his genealogy of Jesus Christ with this phrase?

15. How has learning David’s story added depth to your understanding of Jesus’ birth story?