

WHOLE HEARTED – A PURE HEART

SMALL GROUP NOTES 26/05/19

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SCRIPTURE

- 1 Samuel 16:1-13

SCRIPTURE CONTEXT

After God's rejection of Saul as King, we see Samuel being sent by God to appoint a new King. Samuel receives clear direction from God to head to Jesse's in Bethlehem, to anoint one of his sons with oil as the new king. When Samuel arrives, he finds that Jesse has numerous sons and so begins the process of working out which one God has appointed to be king. We see as the narrative unfolds that what Samuel (representing us) looks for in a king is very different to what God looks for in a King. Verse 7 highlights this when God says, "Man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart."

QUESTION FOR STUDY AND DISCUSSION

1. For those who have heard the preach, share a particular highlight and why that point stood out for you personally. Has it helped you in your week so far?
2. David learned how to be devoted to God whilst alone watching the sheep. His heart for God was cultivated in a secret place, learning to be content, patient and faithful. Why is solitude with God so important? What are the fruits when we do so?
3. David is forgotten by his father yet is still willing to serve and bless his family, despite being neglected and looked down on. David's focus is on the acceptance and approval of his heavenly Father. How much does approval from others affect you? How much do we rest in God's approval of us?
4. The Spirit rushes upon David as a seal of his anointing as king. How have you seen the Spirit change your heart in your life away from impurity and towards purity?