



Series: Missions Month	Date: February 21st, 2016
Topic: David and Samuel: Spiritual Parenting	Speaker: Pastor Nathan Edwardson

WELCOME

This past Sunday we were blessed to have Nathan Edwardson, son of our own Pastor Dale, visiting with us.

For the ice breaker this week, share your answers to the following question: If you could give one piece of advice to your "high school self", what would it be?

WORSHIP

Start the worship time by encouraging people to share praises for what God has done in their life this past week. Sing worship songs from the Sunday services or select your own.

WORD

I. Spiritual Objective. At the end of the discussion, members will:

A. Understand and discuss the importance of the church operating as a family.

II. The Sermon Synopsis:

Pastor Nathan focused on the story of Samuel anointing David to emphasize the need for spiritual parenting in the church. Prior to anointing David, Samuel had anointed Saul as the King of Israel, but Saul feared the people more than he feared God and was abandoned by God. This failure made Samuel reluctant to anoint the next King. David, was an afterthought in his family. When Samuel came to David's family, David wasn't even invited in from the fields.

However, God chose David because of David's willingness to follow God and because God saw the king David would become. But, while God saw David in the field, He sent Samuel to Him. Samuel had to move out of his failure with Saul, to help David become the king God knew he could be.

This is a model for how the church needs to operate. When God sees a David, He sends a Samuel; in order to have spiritual sons and daughters in the church, we must have spiritual fathers and mothers. However, the Samuel's of the church must be prepared to move out of their past failures, refill their flasks, and anoint David. In fact, it is irresponsible to bring a generation back to church, when the church does not have spiritual fathers and mothers ready to receive them. The church is not called to be a building, programs, or services, but a family.

Discussion Questions

III. God rejected Saul because Saul began to fear the people. When we begin to fear people, we become useless to God because God cannot use fear. *How does fear affect our ability to be used by God? What causes us to fear people instead of God? What are examples in your life when your fear of what people would think hindered your effectiveness for God?*

IV. In contrast to Saul, David feared God. While David was not a perfect King, David turned back to God at every misstep and repented. David turned to God with both his good days **and** his bad days. *Do we come to God with our good days and our bad days? Why not? Do we believe that God will forgive us every time we repent?*

V. God found David in the field and called him; not because of David's perfection but because of his willingness to follow God. Too often we focus on our perfection instead of our willingness to follow God. When this happens we tend to sit in our failures instead of moving forward. *What failures are you sitting in? How can you begin to move forward? How has God helped you to overcome past failings when you decided to follow Him?*

VI. David was seen by God and yet God sent Samuel. This serves as a model for how the church needs to function. David, spiritual sons and daughters, cannot survive without Samuel, spiritual fathers and mothers. *Who are the Davids and Samuels in Leeward? Are you being*



spiritually fathered or mothered? Or are you spiritually fathering or mothering a David? What has your experience been as someone who was spiritually fathered or mothered or being a spiritual mentor to others?

VII. Pastor Nathan made a statement that it is irresponsible to call home the David's from the field when there aren't Samuel's in the church. *How can we prepare ourselves to be spiritual fathers and mothers? What is the importance of being a spiritual father and mother?*

VIII. Pastor Nathan talked about ministry versus legacy. Ministry is what we can build with our own hands, but our legacy is when we invest in the next generation. *How can we, Leeward, invest in our legacy? What do we need to do to be a spiritual family and not just a church? How do we prepare ourselves as a church to bring the David's in from the field?*

WORK

- **Pray** and ask God to prepare the Samuels of Leeward to be fathers and mothers of the next generation. Thank God that He doesn't expect us to be perfect and ask Him to increase our willingness to set out of our past failures and fears and follow Him.
- **Pray for Our Building Expansion Project (BEP).**
 - ❖ Pray for the communication of recent updates during our upcoming BEP Update meetings and displays.
 - ❖ Pray for the continued working relationship between our architect and contractor and us as we move forward.
 - ❖ Pray that God will continue to give our leadership (pastors & elders), the BEP and Stewardship committees wisdom as we look to Him to provide the needed financial support through our giving, loans and grants.

Announcements:

1. **Decision America Prayer Rally.** Wed, Feb. 24th, 1:00 – 2:00 pm on the State Capitol lawn. Carpooling from the church is available from the church at 11:00 am. Please bring a sack lunch if you're leaving at this time.
2. **Annual Business Meeting.** Sun, Feb. 28th, 7:00 pm. Please join us as we see what God has done this past year in our church as well as electing our elders and deacons for 2016. We will also be accepting our budget for 2016 at this time also.
3. **River of Life Missions.** Wed, Mar 2nd, 5:45pm. Need 20 volunteers to serve a meal, give encouragement and also collecting clothing, toiletries downstairs and any monetary donations.
4. **HIM Conference.** Thu to Sat, Mar. 3rd to 5th, Convention Center. Come hear the great speakers and join in an awesome time of praise and worship with Christians from all over the world.
5. **BEP Update.** Visit our Concept and Design Center this Sunday, Feb. 28th after both services to view displays of the latest update to our Building Expansion Project in our Rise Up and Build campaign. Also please join us in one of the meetings below as applicable to you:
 - a. **Ministry Leaders.** Sunday, March 6th at 12:00 noon. Lunch will be provided.
 - b. **Seniors.** Thursday, March 10th at 10:00am. Potluck lunch.
 - c. **All Church Congregation.** Sunday, March 13th at 12:00 noon. Lunch and childcare will be provided.