

Matters of the Heart

(Series on the life of David)

“A Ministering Heart”

1 Samuel 16:14-23

September 13, 2020

1 Samuel 16

¹⁴ Now the Spirit of the Lord had left Saul, and an evil spirit sent from the Lord began to torment him, ¹⁵ so Saul’s servants said to him, “You see that an evil spirit from God is tormenting you.

¹⁶ Let our lord command your servants here in your presence to look for someone who knows how to play the lyre. Whenever the evil spirit from God comes on you, that person can play the lyre, and you will feel better.”

¹⁷ Then Saul commanded his servants, “Find me someone who plays well and bring him to me.”

¹⁸ One of the young men answered, “I have seen a son of Jesse of Bethlehem who knows how to play the lyre. He is also a valiant man, a warrior, eloquent, handsome, and the Lord is with him.”

¹⁹ Then Saul dispatched messengers to Jesse and said, “Send me your son David, who is with the sheep.” ²⁰ So Jesse took a

donkey loaded with bread, a wineskin, and one young goat and sent them by his son David to Saul. ²¹ When David came to Saul and entered his service, Saul loved him very much, and David became his armor-bearer. ²² Then Saul sent word to Jesse: “Let David remain in my service, for he has found favor with me.” ²³ Whenever the spirit from God came on Saul, David would pick up his lyre and play, and Saul would then be relieved, feel better, and the evil spirit would leave him.

1. In the absence of the Holy Spirit’s control, Satan will exercise his control. (vs. 14)

¹⁴ Now the Spirit of the Lord had left Saul, and an evil spirit sent from the Lord began to torment him,

Two things are said to have happened to Saul.

First, the Spirit of the Lord leaves him.

John 14:17: *“But you know him (the Holy Spirit), for he lives with you and will be in you.”*

Secondly, an evil spirit from God comes upon him.

“an evil spirit sent from the Lord began to torment him.”

2. Saul's advisors lacked the depth of insight to offer any substantive solution. (vss. 15-17)

¹⁵ so Saul's servants said to him, "You see that an evil spirit from God is tormenting you. ¹⁶ Let our lord command your servants here in your presence to look for someone who knows how to play the lyre. Whenever the evil spirit from God comes on you, that person can play the lyre, and you will feel better. ¹⁷ Then Saul commanded his servants, "Find me someone who plays well and bring him to me."

3. Faithfulness to responsibility will not go unnoticed. (vs. 18)

¹⁸ One of the young men answered, "I have seen a son of Jesse of Bethlehem who knows how to play the lyre. He is also a valiant man, a warrior, eloquent, handsome, and the Lord is with him."

4. God often uses human problems to create permanent solutions. (vss. 19-20)

¹⁹ Then Saul dispatched messengers to Jesse and said, "Send me your son David, who is with the sheep." ²⁰ So Jesse took a donkey loaded with bread, a wineskin, and one young goat and sent them by his son David to Saul.

Notice David's ministering heart.

- A ministering heart begins with a humble spirit.
- A ministering heart uses whatever resources are available to open doors of opportunity.
- A ministering heart is willing learn in submission.
- A ministering heart has a heart just like God's own heart.