

After God's Own Heart

Emphasizing the Unseen

1 Samuel 16:6-13

We're more than halfway through our series as we study God's word to become more and more of a people After God's Own Heart. We are:

- *Persisting in Pursuit*
- *Discerning God's Voice*
- *Resisting Superstition*
- *Returning to Repentance*
- *Embracing the Difference*
- *Daring to Trust in God*

Main Idea: People after God's Own Heart Emphasize the Unseen

"Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come." **1 Timothy 4:7-8**

"When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the LORD's anointed is before him.' 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.' Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, 'Neither has the LORD chosen this one.' 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.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.'" And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.' And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the LORD said, 'Arise, anoint him, for this is he.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah." **1 Samuel 16:6-13**

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3 truths about godliness found in 1 Samuel 16:6-13

1. Godliness is Valued Over Outward Appearances (6-10)

"When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the LORD's anointed is before him.'" 1 Samuel 16:6

Samuel's response to Eliab was similar to how people viewed King Saul:

"There was a man of Benjamin whose name was Kish, the son of Abiel, son of Zeror, son of Becorath, son of Aphiah, a Benjaminite, a man of wealth. And he had a son whose name was Saul, a handsome young man. There was not a man among the people of Israel more handsome than he. From his shoulders upward he was taller than any of the people." **1 Samuel 9:1-2**

"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.'" 1 Samuel 16:7

But God sees things differently than you and I do. God cares more about what's going on inside than what you look like on the outside. He's looking for people who desire to grow with Him intimately and to experience His goodness genuinely!

"For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him." **2 Chronicles 16:9a**

"When Jared had lived 162 years, he fathered Enoch. Jared lived after he fathered Enoch 800 years and had other sons and daughters. Thus all the days of Jared were 962 years, and he died." **Genesis 5:18-20**

When Enoch had lived 65 years, he fathered Methuselah. Enoch walked with God after he fathered Methuselah 300 years and had other sons and daughters. Thus all the days of Enoch were 365 years. Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him." **Genesis 5:21-24**

"These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God." **Genesis 6:9**

God is not interested in surface level, face-value spirituality.

"Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, 'Neither has the LORD chosen this one.' 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.'" 1 Samuel 16:8-10

On the surface, many of the sons of Jesse could have been chosen to be the next King of Israel. But God was looking for something deeper.

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2. Godliness is Cultivated Out of Sight (11-12)

“Then Samuel said to Jesse, ‘Are all your sons here?’ And he said, ‘There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.’ And Samuel said to Jesse, ‘Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.’ And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the LORD said, ‘Arise, anoint him, for this is he.’” **1 Samuel 16:8-12**

David may have been an after thought - the last pick of his father, Jesse. But he was always the first choice of his Heavenly Father!

David’s Time as a Shepherd:

- **Prepared him to Lead**
- **Made him a Worshipper**
- **Taught him to Trust**
- **Stretched him in Faithfulness**

“One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much” **Luke 16:10**

Take steps to train in godliness and let your heart be cultivated after God’s own heart. Things like:

- Spending time with Jesus - dedicate time for reading the Bible and talking to Him in prayer.
- Take steps of faith - try hard things for God
 - Seeking restoration/forgiveness if you've been hurt.
 - Doing something kind for a difficult person.
 - Reaching out to a neighbor you've never met.
 - Inviting a coworker to church.
 - Fleeing sin by ending a relationship not honoring to God or deleting an app that leads to bad habits.
 - Join a serve team.
- Practice Generosity that no one will see
- Tell someone about what Jesus has done for you
- Offer to pray for someone this week.

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3. Godliness is empowered by the Holy Spirit (13)

“Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.” **1 Samuel 16:13**

When David was anointed, he was not just selected for a job, he was also empowered by God to accomplish it.

In Christ we have the presence of God in us forever!

Be with Him, and then Be more like Him, so that others might know Him.

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“But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ...For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God” **Ephesians 2:4-5, 8**

Sources and Further Reading Opportunities:

- *The Bible Exposition Commentary* – Warren Wiersbe (1996)
- *The New American Commentary: 1 & 2 Samuel* – Robert D. Bergen (1996)
- *Exalting Jesus in 1 & 2 Samuel* – J.D. Greear & Heath A. Thomas (2016)
- *1 Samuel for You* – Tim Chester (2014)
- *ESV Study Bible* – Crossway (2008)
- *CSB Study Bible* – Trevin Wax, Ed. (2017)
- *1 Samuel: How One Godly Man Changed a Nation* - John MacArthur (2000)
- *Commentary Critical & Explanatory on the Whole Bible*- Jamieson, Fausset, Brown (1997)