

CHASING AFTER GOD



The Life of David

DAVID

- Lived around 1,000 BC
- From Bethlehem
- 8th son of Jesse
- Shepherd
- Musician, Singer & Songwriter
- Wrote about half of the Psalms
- Mighty Warrior



STORY FACTS FOR KIDS

- Israel's greatest King
- Established Jerusalem as capital city
- sinned greatly against God (more than once)
- 8 wives (named)
- mentioned about 1,100 times in the Bible
- Jesus is from the line of David and will sit on the Throne of His Father David



IT'S COMPLICATED!

CHASING AFTER GOD



Message #1: **The Heart of the Matter**

1 SAMUEL 16

1 Now the LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go; I am sending you to Jesse the Bethlehemite. For I have provided Myself a king among his sons."

1 SAMUEL 16

2 And Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'

1 SAMUEL 16

- 3 "Then invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; you shall anoint for Me the one I name to you."
- 4 So Samuel did what the LORD said, and went to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, "Do you come peaceably?"

1 SAMUEL 16

- 5 And he said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons, and invited them to the sacrifice.
- 6 So it was, when they came, that he looked at Eliab and said, "Surely the LORD'S anointed is before Him."

1 SAMUEL 16

7 But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have refused him. For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

1 SAMUEL 16

8 So Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one."

9 Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one."

1 SAMUEL 16

10 Thus Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen these."

1 SAMUEL 16

11 And Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all the young men here?" Then he said, "There remains yet the youngest, and there he is, keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him. For we will not sit down till he comes here."

1 SAMUEL 16

12 So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with bright eyes, and good-looking. And the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!"

1 SAMUEL 16

13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah.

1 SAMUEL 16

14 But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and a distressing spirit from the LORD troubled him.

THE HEART OF THE MATTER

SAUL

SAMUEL

DAVID



- **Tragic figure**
- **The Villian**
- 1 Samuel 9-10

**“that there is no one like him
among all the people”**



Humble Heart

1 Samuel 9:21

And Saul answered and said, "Am I not a Benjamite, of the **smallest** of the tribes of Israel, and my family the **least** of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? **Why then do you speak like this to me?"**

Humble Heart

- When Samuel came to make him King, he was **hiding** from everybody.
- He was good his first few years but then something **corrupted his heart**.

Corrupted Heart

- Something went wrong in Saul's heart.
- As is mostly the case, it's not a big blow out but a small leak.
 - a drifting away from God
 - a gradual backsliding



1 Samuel 15:11

God: "I greatly regret that I have set up Saul as king, for he has turned back from following Me, and has not performed My commandments." And it grieved Samuel, and he cried out to the LORD all night.



1 Samuel 15:16-17

16 Then Samuel said to Saul, "**Be quiet!** And I will tell you what the LORD said to me last night." And he said to him, "Speak on." 17 So Samuel said, "**When you were little in your own eyes**, were you not head of the tribes of Israel? And did not the LORD anoint you king over Israel?"



Corrupted Heart

What happened?

- **Humility >>> Pride**
 - Power went to his head
- **Seeking God >>> Self-Reliance**
- **Pleasing God >>> People-Pleaser**



Corrupted Heart

What happened?

- Increasingly impatient
- Partially obeyed
- Blamed others for his sins
- Made excuses instead of repenting



Corrupted Heart

The Horrifying Result

1 Samuel 16:14

But the Spirit of the LORD **departed** from Saul, and a **distressing spirit** from the LORD troubled him.



SAUL

Funny Biblical Foreshadowing



DAVID

SAVING SAMUEL

- One of the greatest men of history
—none of his words fell to the ground
- **Had a miraculous birth to Hannah.**
- Began serving the LORD at early age.



DISAPPOINTED HEART

1 Samuel 16:1

Now the LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you **mourn for Saul**, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel?

- **Snagged him up.**
- **God” It’s time to move on!**

DISAPPOINTED HEART

How you handle your losses & disappointments will determine whether you move on in strength or shrink back from it all.

Let's hear Jesus on this...

Jesus, Matthew 10:14

**“And whoever will not receive you
nor hear your words, when you
depart from that house or city,
shake off the dust from your feet.”**

Shake it off!

Why is this important?

LISTENING HEART

- Samuel's greatest strength was that he could **HEAR GOD**.
 - He listened & did what God said.
 - This spiritual skill was Samuel trademark from his earliest days.



**I wonder if we could learn
to “hear” like this?**

LISTENING HEART

- God said “Go” and Samuel “went”
 - To Jesse’s house
 - 7 Sons stand before him



1 Samuel 16:6

he looked at Eliab and said, "Surely the LORD'S anointed is before Him."

LISTENING HEART

1 Samuel 16:7

But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have refused him. For the LORD does not see as man sees; **for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.**"

DAVID

SERVING HEART

- Overlooked, left out
- He is tending his father's sheep
- God anoints David to be King



**God promotes
servants, not leaders!**

DAVID

SERVING HEART

- Even after being anointed, David goes back to shepherding sheep.
- Then we find him serving Saul
 - With music
 - As Armorbearer
- **Serving God & People was David's way.**
- **A Serving heart is a faithful heart!**



HEART AFTER GOD

1Sam 13:14

"But now your kingdom shall not continue. The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be commander over His people"

- This was God's take on David.

Could this be said of us?



HEART AFTER GOD

Jesus, John 4:23

"But the hour is coming,
and now is, when the true
worshipers will worship the Father
in spirit and truth; for the Father is
seeking such to worship Him.



DAVID

HEART AFTER GOD

- David wanted to know God
- David wanted to be close to God
- David wanted to please God
- **Worshipping Heart**
 - In secret
 - Writing songs, playing songs to God



HEART AFTER GOD

Psalm 42:1

As the deer pants for the water
brooks, So pants my soul for You,
O God.



ANJOINTED HEART

- To live in the purpose & power of the Spirit of God.
- To live in God's strength & not your own.
- Seek this...



THE HEART OF THE MATTER

SAUL

SAMUEL

DAVID

Psalms 139:23-24

23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; 24 And see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Numbers 6:24-26

24 "The LORD bless you and keep you;

25 The LORD make His face shine upon
you, and be gracious to you;

26 The LORD lift up His countenance upon
you, and give you peace."