

High School Hero: David (name means: "Beloved" or "Favorite")

Context: The nation of Israel had requested a king so they could look like all the other nations. Someone tall, dark & handsome that looked the part of a fearless leader. But instead they got a fear filled leader who wasn't a leader at all and directly disobeyed God's instructions on several occasions.

Passages that tell his story: I Samuel 16:1-2, 4-7, 11-13

Now the LORD said to Samuel, "You have mourned long enough for Saul. I have rejected him as king of Israel, so fill your flask with olive oil and go to Bethlehem. Find a man named Jesse who lives there, for I have selected one of his sons to be my king."

⁴ So Samuel did as the LORD instructed. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town came trembling to meet him. "What's wrong?" they asked. "Do you come in peace?"

⁵ "Yes," Samuel replied. "I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Purify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." Then Samuel performed the purification rite for Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice, too.

⁶ When they arrived, Samuel took one look at Eliab and thought, "Surely this is the LORD's anointed!"

⁷ But the LORD said to Samuel, "Don't judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The LORD doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

¹¹ Then Samuel asked, "Are these all the sons you have?"

"There is still the youngest," Jesse replied. "But he's out in the fields watching the sheep and goats."

"Send for him at once," Samuel said. "We will not sit down to eat until he arrives."

¹² So Jesse sent for him. He was dark and handsome, with beautiful eyes.

And the LORD said, "This is the one; anoint him."

¹³ So as David stood there among his brothers, Samuel took the flask of olive oil he had brought and anointed David with the oil. And the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David from that day on. Then Samuel returned to Ramah.

Heroic Story: When God decided it was time to give Israel a king who would lead them in righteousness and obedience to God he chose...a teenage shepherd boy, whose own dad wouldn't have chosen him to be anointed king. When Samuel came to anoint the next king of Israel, David wasn't training to be a king. He was out faithfully serving and taking care of his sheep: providing them food, water, safety (fought off a bear and a lion). **David was being faithful with the "little things" God had put in front of him.** David would one day kill Goliath, the giant enemy of Israel, lead and protect the outcasts, and be the greatest king of Israel, in fact Jesus would come from his family line. But he started as a shepherd boy, faithfully serving in what God had right in front of him.

Heroic Principle: God wants you to be faithful in the "little things". God sometimes rewards faithfulness in little things with bigger opportunities to be faithful.

Heroic Application:

1. Describe a time where you recently felt unnoticed or overlooked.
2. What are some ways you are currently trying to look like you have it all together on the outside?
3. What is your time, place & plan for spending time with the Lord? What have you been learning recently from your time with God?
4. What are some "little things" you believe God is calling you to be faithful in right now?