

Big News for Little People

1 Samuel 16

*God does not look at the outward appearance,
God looks at the heart*

1. Despite big disappointment, Samuel is faithful to obey the Lord (1-4)
2. Faithfulness commands respect (4-5)
3. Stature is enticing, but God is after substance (5-7)
4. David models simple quiet obedience (8-13)
5. God is sovereign to raise up those who will serve Him (14-23)

For Further Study and Reflection:

- *Leap Over a Wall* by Eugene Peterson
- *Sticky Teams* by Larry Osborne
- *Under the Unpredictable Plant* by Eugene Peterson
- *Leaders Who Last* by Dave Kraft

Small Group Questions:

1. Who are some popular leaders who are known for their stature? Why do you think we associate leadership with stature or appearance? Read Isaiah 53:2. How does this passage confront our instincts?
2. Why does Samuel mourn for Saul? In what way does this demonstrate the burden of the prophet's calling? What other grieving Prophets come to mind?
3. What is impressive about Samuel, and David in contrast to Saul?
4. What about David's heart is impressive to the Lord?
(Reference Acts 13:20-22)
5. What other "little people", underdogs, younger and smaller people does God use for His mission? Why does God have a proclivity for using the lesser? Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-31.
6. How does this story convict you? How does this story encourage you?