

Sunday 12th June 2016 - New Series

The Life of King David: Public servant, Private Struggles

Home group discussion questions

Read: 1 Samuel 16: 1-13

David, the second king of Israel, is the only person in Scripture with that name, typifying the unique place he has as ancestor, forerunner and foreshadower of Jesus Christ – ‘great David’s greater son’. The biblical material on King David’s life is abundant and rich, such is his importance in the biblical narrative. The background to the choosing and anointing of David is the failure of Saul and God’s rejection of him (16:1)

1. Brainstorm what you, as a group, consider to be your overall impression of King David’s life?
2. The choosing of David stands here in stark and deliberate contrast to the choosing of Saul. (See 1 Sam 8: 5; 8:22). What is the contrast?
3. Samuel calls the family of Jesse to (presumably) the sanctuary at Bethlehem. How does God’s criteria for choosing (v.7) challenge us in our culture?
4. How can we reconcile ‘a God who chooses’ with ‘God who shows no favouritism’ (Romans 2:11)?
5. How did David’s background suit him for the enormous task ahead of him?
6. What is the significance of Samuel’s *anointing* of David? (cf. Isaiah 11:2; 61:1).
7. In what sense are we to seek anointing for service (cf. Acts 10:38; 1 John 2:20.27)?
8. How does this ancient story encourage you?

Pray for each of us to have a clear sense of God’s call to service at this point in our lives.