

The Shepherd Boy Anointed King

1 Samuel 16:1, 6-13 (NKJV)

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.”

⁶ So it was, when they came, that he looked at Eliab and said, “Surely the Lord’s anointed *is* before Him!”

⁷ But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at his physical 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.”

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

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!” 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.

1 Samuel 16:1 (NKJV)

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. We Learn that God Values Small and Insignificant

1 Samuel 16:7 (NKJV)

But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at his physical 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.”

2. If God Calls You, He Will Empower You.

1 Samuel 16:12 (NKJV)

And the Lord said, “Arise, anoint him; for this *is* the one!”

1 Samuel 16:13 (NKJV)

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.

3. God Is Never in a Hurry.

God uses the pasture, or the wilderness, to prepare his leaders.

Chuck Swindoll shared 3 words about David’s time in the pasture.

Obscurity

Monotony

Reality

Because of the time in the pasture, David learned to be patient. He learned how to care for people. He learned how to take care of a flock. He learned that God always kept his promises.