

The Dot - 2/25/21

Bible Stories and Characters: David Anointed as King

Bible Passage: 1 Samuel 16

Interviewee: Sarina Camacho



Overview/Summary

God has rejected Saul as king, so God leads Samuel to the town of Bethlehem to choose a new king from Jesse's family. Each of Jesse's 7 older sons are impressive, but God instructs Samuel to judge people not by their external appearances but, rather, by their hearts.

Each of Jesse's sons has been evaluated and each has been rejected. Eventually it appears that Jesse has run out of sons. Samuel has to ask Jesse whether he has any other sons hidden away somewhere before they finally call on David. It's clear that the Lord has chosen David. Samuel anoints Jesse's youngest son, David, a shepherd, as king, and God gives divine power to David.

What We Learn:

Our culture spends so much time and energy focused on the outside, trying to present a perfect image of themselves to others. Think about how much time we spend getting ready in the morning. Think about how much time people spend working out or buying clothes. Think about how obsessed people are with their latest post on social media.

1 Samuel 16:7- *But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."*

Clearly, God is far more concerned with the inside and our hearts. Think about how much time we spend developing our heart and growing in love. What would it look like to focus more attention on the inside, rather than the outside?

Sometimes we feel like we are not qualified or good enough to be used by God, but He has different standards and criteria. It is important to remember that God created each of us uniquely and specifically for His purposes. God is also known for choosing unlikely people to do His will...in this case it was the young shepherd, David.

Reflection Questions:

- What stood out about David that made him God's choice for king, opposed to his 7 older brothers?
- Read 1 Samuel 16:7. What stands out to you about this verse?
- Why is it so easy for us to focus more on the outside, rather than the inside?
- Do you find yourself comparing yourself to others or feeling like you don't match up? Read Psalm 139:13-18 and let God speak His truth to you.