



February 28, 2021
Samuel Anoints David to be King
1 Samuel 16

Last week we learned about Ruth and Boaz. We talked about their family tree. Ruth and Boaz had a son named Obed. When Obed grew up, he had a son named Jesse. Then, when Jesse grew up, he had several sons. This is where our story begins today. We know that one of Jesse's sons grew up to be King David. But, do you know David's story?

Watch the video below to learn more about David and how and why God chose him to be a king:

<https://youtu.be/OnNXbj6udy4>

God sent His prophet, Samuel, to Bethlehem where Jesse lived with his sons. God instructed Samuel to choose one of Jesse's sons to be king. He told Jesse what to look for and how to choose the best person to be king.

Read 1 Samuel 16:6-13

How many sons did Jesse have? What position did David have in his family? What was David's job?

In verse 7, what did God tell Samuel to look for or not to look for when choosing a king?

David's brothers were all tall and strong soldiers in King Saul's army. David did not seem very impressive or important next to them. His job was to take care of the sheep. He was short and small compared to his brothers. It also says that David was handsome. But, that is not why God chose him to be king. God saw that David had a heart that trusted in Him. That's what is most important to God.

Have you ever felt like you were not very good at something or like everyone around you could do things better than you? Maybe you are the smallest person on your team, or maybe you did not even make the team because of your size. Maybe other kids run faster than you. Maybe other kids have an easier time in school than you. Maybe you think someone has prettier hair or nicer clothes than you.

God did not look at any of those things when he chose you to be His child. He loves you just the way you are. He loves your heart that trusts in Jesus. He gave you special talents and gifts that He wants to use to help other people.

Sometimes it is hard to know what your talents and gifts are. If you don't know what you are good at, ask others to help you find what you do best. You can ask your Mom, Dad, Grandma, or Grandpa. You could also ask your friends. Your teacher, coach, and church leaders can also help you discover your special skills.

Read 1 Corinthians 12:14-20

Think about the parts of your body like your eyes, nose, ears, mouth, hands, and feet. Also, think about the ones you can't see like your heart, lungs, and stomach. Which one do you think is the most important? Would you want to live without any one of those parts? Would your body be whole without each one of those parts?

God said that the same thing is true about all of the different people He made. We are all part of one body of believers in Christ. God created us each in a different way and we are all needed to help share Jesus with other people.

God says that the most important thing is what is in our hearts. If He has given you the gift of being good at sports, you have two choices. You can put others down who are not as athletic as you, or you can be a friend to them, or even help them practice to get better. Which is the attitude in your heart that God wants to see?

If you are not very good at sports, that doesn't mean you are any less important than someone who is. There may be someone who is really athletic, but who has trouble with math or reading. That person may think he is not as important as someone who is really good at math or reading, but that is not how God sees it. God may have given you the gift of being good at math and reading in order for you to help a person who is not. God loves to see an attitude of caring and helpfulness in your heart. The attitude of your heart is even more important than the skill God has made you good at.

God did not choose David to be king because he was tall, strong, handsome, or smart. He chose David because he had a heart that trusted in God. Because he trusted in God to help him, he was able to do great things. He wrestled lions and bears, with only his small hands, to protect his sheep. He defeated Goliath with just a sling and a stone.

God kept David's heart faithful to him all through his life. He was not perfect, but he had a heart that kept turning back to God, even when he made mistakes. He trusted

that God could turn his mistakes around, and He did. Our Savior, Jesus, came from David's family. Now, you an important part of that family, too, because your heart also believes and trusts in Him.

Prayer:

Dear God,

Help me to know how important I am to you because of your great love for me. Put an attitude of love and caring in my heart. Help me to use the gifts you have given me to help others. When I make mistakes, turn my heart back to you. Give me a heart that trusts in you my whole life long. In Jesus' name. Amen.

The following activities are linked with this lesson:

David's Harp Craft

Supplies needed:

4 Craft Sticks

4 Rubber Bands

Glue

Markers, or anything else you would like to use to decorate the harp

David the Shepherd Boy Coded Message

David the Shepherd Boy Word Search

Samuel Anoints David as King Coloring Page