

GOING DEEPER

Discipleship Resources for Community Church



Week of
June 9th
2019

OUR ABILITY TO FOLLOW GOD INTO THE “NEXT CHAPTER” DEPENDS NOT ON WHAT THE WORLD SEES BUT ON WHAT GOD SEES.

This week as we looked at young David before he became king, we saw he was an unlikely choice for the position, being the youngest brother and a small shepherd boy. Though he may not have measured up outwardly in the eyes of the world, God looked inwardly and chose him for this holy, royal anointing because of his heart for God. Likewise, we often feel pressure in our culture, and even in our families, to “measure up” with all the right outward appearances and qualifications. Yet, when our Heavenly Father looks on us, he sees our heart. He sees the “heart after God” that he is fashioning within us, as he calls us into the “next chapter” of knowing him, following him, and loving him.

⁶ When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed stands here before the Lord.” 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.” ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, “The Lord has not chosen this one either.” ⁹ Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, “Nor has the Lord chosen this one.” ¹⁰ Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, “The Lord has not chosen these.” ¹¹ So he asked Jesse, “Are these all the sons you have?”

“There is still the youngest,” Jesse answered. “He is tending the sheep.” Samuel said, “Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.” ¹² So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; this is the one.”

1 Samuel 16:6-12

THIS WEEK:

Reflection: Ezekiel 36:26 “I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.”

If God is concerned about and sees the heart, shouldn’t our energy and focus be on cooperating with what he is doing in our heart, rather than being so concerned about “measuring up” to other people’s standards for us? How much time and energy do you put into outward appearances? How much time and energy do you put into partnering with God in nurturing the inward life of a heart for God?

Application: Acts 13:22 "After removing Saul, he made David their king. God testified concerning him: 'I have found David, son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.'"

Spend some time in prayer, asking God to help you notice how he has been fashioning in you a heart for God. Consider journaling your thoughts about the condition of your heart using the list of observations this week's sermon made about David's heart for God: a heart of faith and courageous action, a heart of worship, a heart of honesty, and a heart of repentance. Pray with a friend about what heart condition you desire to grow stronger in.