

Community Group Discussion Questions

“King of Hearts” 1 Samuel 16:1-13, 18 July 1/2

Getting Started

Value and worth is not quantified nor qualified by an external perspective, but instead the eternal perspective, which is one’s HEART. Today, we are once more reminded to never judge a book by its cover, but instead trust in the God that writes His story upon the pages of your heart, making your life a life worth knowing!

Who is someone you know that has a heart for God? (They may not be a powerful presence on the outside, but inside, their heart beats for God) **What do you think makes them this way?**

Going Deeper

- I. The Crisis of Leadership: 1 Samuel 16:1
 - A. Rejection: 1 Samuel 8:20 “be like all the nations”
 - B. Rebellion: 1 Samuel 15:17 “little in your own eyes”
 - Unlawful Sacrifice: 1 Samuel 13:9
 - Partial Obedience: 1 Samuel 15:23
 - C. Regret: 1 Samuel 15:35 “The Lord regretted He made Saul King”

TAKE AWAY: Living for popular opinion will make you not popular with yourself.

From the dawn of human history with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, humanity has struggled to accept the Lord as our leader. We doubt His goodness, His love, and His care. We want another leader. Even when we say we are following Jesus as our Lord, we often obey only when we want to and in the way we want to. Ironically, as parents, we insist on our children obeying us immediately and with a good attitude, yet we don’t even give Jesus this same level of respect in our lives. **What needs to change in your life so you know the heart and desires of Jesus for you, and are willing to listen and obey joyfully and completely?**

II. The Cost of Leadership: 1 Samuel 16:1b-5

- A. Is there a “Clear Command”? “Fill your horn with oil and go!” (Vs.1b)
- B. Have you “Counted the Cost”? “If Saul hears it, he will kill me!” (Vs. 2)
- C. Will you “Choose to Commit”? “Samuel did what the LORD commanded!” (Vs. 4)

TAKE AWAY: Leadership is never void of failure; it is just being willing to own the void in the failure, and move forward.

III. The Criteria of Leadership: 1 Samuel 16:6-11

- A. Not about Status: Birth-order (Vs. 6)
- B. Not about Stature: Appearance or Height (1 Samuel 10:23)
- C. Not about Standing: Rank (1 Samuel 17:13)
- D. It’s about Shepherding: “but behold, he is keeping the sheep” (Vs. 11)

TAKE AWAY: “Leadership is more than being in charge, but caring about those in your charge” - S. Sinek

The concept of ‘servant leadership’ has become popular in business circles in recent years, and in fact many best-selling business books have shown through research that the very best leaders are those who sacrifice for their teams and their companies. We all want a leader who is looking out for our interests, not just enriching themselves.

Where has God given you places of leadership? (possible answers: my family, work, school board, coaching kid’s sports team, leading Scouting group, etc.)

How are you shepherding those in your care?

How might God want you to improve?

IV. The Courage of Leadership: 1 Samuel 16:13,18

- A. Power of the Holy Spirit: The Spirit of the Lord rushed (Vs. 13)
- B. Prophetic in the Holy Spirit: Behold, I have seen...(Vs. 18)

TAKE AWAY: Never compare yourself. Just be yourself because someone believes in you.

The moment David was anointed 'chosen', he was filled with the Holy Spirit from that day onward. What happened uniquely to David and a precious few others in the Old Testament, happens for all Christians in the New Testament.

Read Ephesians 1:13-14. **What does it say?**

Read Ephesians 5:18-20. **What does it say?**

Read 2 Peter 1:3. **What does it say?**

You have the Holy Spirit living in you, and He gives you all you need to live a godly life. Knowing this truth, what needs to change in your thinking? **Why would you waste any time comparing your life to someone else's?**

Closing: (1 Samuel 13:14: man after His own heart...)

H _____
E _____
A _____
R _____
T _____

Group Prayer Requests