

# Chosen: Lessons from the Life of David

## Week 1 – The Little Guy – 1 Samuel 16:1-13

**Weekly Summary:** David was the king who never should have been. He was the youngest of eight brothers, and he looked after sheep. Even his own father thought him a nobody. But God is a God who chooses the insignificant to accomplish his greatest purposes. We see it in David's story. We see it in Jesus' story. And we see it in our story.

- ❖ **1 Samuel 16:1** – The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king.”
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- ❖ **1 Samuel 16:2-4** – But Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me.” The LORD said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’<sup>3</sup> Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate.”<sup>4</sup> Samuel did what the LORD said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, “Do you come in peace?”
  - ❖ **1 Samuel 16:5-7** – Samuel replied, “Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me.” Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.<sup>6</sup> When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD's anointed stands here before the LORD.”<sup>7</sup> 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.”
  - ❖ **1 Samuel 16:8-11** – Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, “The LORD has not chosen this one either.”<sup>9</sup> Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, “Nor has the LORD chosen this one.”<sup>10</sup> Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, “The LORD has not chosen these.”<sup>11</sup> 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.”
  - ❖ **1 Samuel 16:12a** – So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features.

- ❖ **1 Samuel 16:12b-13a** – Then the LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; this is the one.”<sup>13</sup> So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David.
  - God chose insignificant \_\_\_\_\_.
  
  - God chose insignificant \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- ❖ **1 Corinthians 1:18, 26-27** – For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God...<sup>26</sup> Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth.<sup>27</sup> But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.
  - God chose insignificant \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- ❖ **John 15:16a** – “You did not choose me, but I chose you ...”
  
- ❖ **John 15:16** – “You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit.”

## **Digging Deeper**

1. Why does it feel so good to be chosen? How does it feel when someone “passes” on you? Any stories to share?
2. How would you feel if you were Eliab from today’s story? Why? What does it reveal about the inner workings of your human heart?
3. List off the ways that Jesus was insignificant—even shameful—in the eyes of his peers.
4. Why does God choose to use insignificant and shameful people and things? How does this actually help to accomplish his mission of love and grace for people?
5. In what ways do other religions follow “normal” human ideas of significance?
6. How will understanding your significance in God’s eyes affect you when people “pass” on you in the future?
7. How can God use you to accomplish significant things with your families? Friends? Other people with whom you interact? How can God use Living Savior?

**Challenge:** Do five things “outside of the ordinary” this week that bear positive significance on others.

**Homework:** Read 1 Samuel 17:1-58 to prepare for the next message in our *Chosen* series.