God Chooses A King Sun Am 6/23/24 KZ Lesson

# Memory Verse: 1 Samuel 16:7 NKJV

# 7But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For *the Lord does* not *see* as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”

Target Thought: God sees our heart.

In any team sport, the players must be chosen; so lots of times the kids who are the fastest, strongest, or best at a sport will be chosen first. What’s a talent a good baseball player would have? Soccer player? Football player? Hockey player? Basketball player?

For people who don’t have these talents, the part where players are chosen can be sad. We might be afraid we’ll be chosen last or not chosen at all. Our Bible passage kind of reminds me of the choosing part of sports. In 1 Samuel 16, God had decided to choose a new king for Israel. God needed to choose a new king because King Saul had chosen not to obey God. Saul obeyed God in the beginning but then after some time had passed and he decided he didn’t need to fully obey God. When he began not to fully obey God it stopped him from living in God’s best plans for him and he was even replaced as a king. Even now days people start out with God and then don’t fully follow after Him and it ends up causing them to lose the good plans God has for them.

God told the prophet Samuel to go to Bethlehem to the house of Jesse. God knew exactly who He was going to choose. David even as very young boy loved God with all of his heart he spent hours everyday praying to and worshiping God. David spent time with God and learned about his relationship with God and all of this prepared David for the most incredible life that God had already planned for him.

So Samuel listened to God’s directions and he told Jesse to bring his sons so that God could tell him which one He had chosen. Jesse brought in seven sons.

As each of Jesse's sons passed by, God told Samuel that he was not the one. Samuel could not understand it. They were all such handsome men and very strong. Surely one of them was the king God had chosen. But God said to Samuel, "Don't consider his looks. I have rejected him. Man looks at outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

After seven of Jesse's sons had passed before him, there were no more sons in the house. So Samuel asked, "Are these all of the sons you have?"

It turns out, Jesse had a son who was still a boy, and he was taking care of the sheep. Samuel had Jesse call this son in, and his  name was David. When David came in, God said, "He is the one.” So Samuel anointed him with oil.

He wasn't the oldest. He wasn't the tallest, and he wasn't the strongest. But God chose him to be king because God does not look just on the outside, but God looks at the heart. God knows us inside and out, He knows our heart, our thoughts and even more important He knows if we truly love and trust Him.

Now we already know that God has had only good plans for us even before we were born, however we have to determine that we love God with all of our hearts, that we trust Him no matter what and nothing will distract us from serving Him so that we can have all of the very best God has for us.

Let’s pray

Dear God, help us remember that You have only good plans for us, You love us and You look at our hearts. In Jesus’ name, amen.

1 What caused Saul to lose God’s good plans for him?

2 What prepared David for God’s best life for him?

3 Does God look at our heart?

4 Does God already know if we love and trust Him?

5 Do we have to determine that nothing will distract us from serving God?