

# 1 Samuel 16:1-13 - After God's Heart

## Life of David Series

### (David: After God's Own Heart)

Today we are beginning a brand new in-depth series on one of the most Unique Characters in the Bible

#### A)DAVID- Consider the Uniqueness of David

David is given a unique title by God –

“A MAN AFTER MY OWN HEART!”

B)No one else in the pages of scripture is referred to in that way. –

1)A man or woman after God's own heart!

C)So David is unique in the title he is given.

David is Unique in the coverage the Bible gives to his life.

A)David is the 2<sup>nd</sup> most mentioned person in the entire Bible – 2<sup>nd</sup> only to Jesus

B)In the 30 centuries since his death, he has been painted, sculpted, Movies and TV series .

1)To this day parents name their children after him.

David is unique in his failings

A)The interesting thing about the Bible is it presents it's hero's in an honest light.

B)We see the good the bad and the ugly

1)David had plenty of all three of these things

C)God knew these ugly things would be a part of David's life – before he even choose him

1)And yet God still chose him

D)What did God know about David?

- ❖ God knew David would be prone to battles with depression
- ❖ God knew David would multiply wives
- ❖ God knew David would commit adultery
- ❖ God knew David would commit murder
- ❖ God knew David would fail as a father

God knew all those things about David – God knew David would not be perfect

A)David failed big time in many areas

B)David was also Unique in his repentance

C)Despite his many failings David – He always repented –

D)Startling Contrast with David and King Saul – Saul often expressed Sorrow – remorse

1)But there was no life change.

E)With David it was the opposite: Sometimes it would take a while –

1)But David – fully repent from his sin – Change in his actions and Character.

<sup>10</sup> For godly sorrow produces repentance *leading* to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death. 2 Corinthians 7:10

Worldly sorrow is – oh shoot I got caught or I am sorrow I hurt you.

A)But it doesn't result in life change – it doesn't result of turning from the sin or behavior

B)Seen this so often in men – get caught viewing Porn – no change

1)Stems from really not having a Fear of God – Reverence for God

C)Men who sign up for the Conquer series – Effort to change

D)David repented of his sin and despite his many failings – David still finished well.

1)Not usually the case of those who failed in Bible

E)So David is a very unique character in the Bible – worthy of an in depth study like this.

#### Today we are going to Consider David's Calling

A)When we arrive in 1 Samuel 16 Saul has been the King in Israel for over 20 yrs

B)Saul would have won PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS –

C)Saul was tall dark and handsome -everything the people wanted in a King

D)But because of his Pride & disobedience – AND Unrepentant heart –

1)He was quickly rejected by God has King.

E)According to Acts 13:21 Saul reigned in Israel for 40 yrs

1)But most of those years were marked by a lack of God's anointing and blessing.

When we come to Chapter 16 there is a new focus  
New Man – New Day – New Leading

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel?"

Samuel is still grieving over Saul

A)God was ready to do a New thing / but Samuel was still grieving over the Old thing /

B)Grieving is fine – in fact – A Good mark of a man or woman of God –

1)Is WHEN they are burdened by the sins of those around them

C)Samuel was discouraged

1)But we must remember that God will never allow His work to die with the death or failure of a man.

So God says to Samuel – *You have grieved LONG enough – IT is time to get on w/ My Program – my man*

*Fill your horn with oil, and go; I am sending you to Jesse the Bethlehemite. For I have provided Myself a king among his sons."*

**A)Now pause there for a moment – This is a good reminder to us of How God leads**

B)God leads us one step at a time! / that's what we see in God sending Samuel down to anoint one of Jesse's sons

C)God doesn't give Samuel a play by play. God doesn't give him the name –

1)He basically says go and I will give you further instructions when needed.

D)God rarely – spells it all out!

1)He leads us one step at a time.

E)Samuel like us is at first apprehensive

<sup>2</sup>And Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me."

But the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' <sup>3</sup>Then invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you

shall do; you shall anoint for Me the one I name to you."

<sup>4</sup>So Samuel did what the LORD said, and went to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, "Do you come peaceably?"

Now if you are unfamiliar with 1 Samuel– V.4 might seem confusing

A)Elders tremble– asking Samuel – Comes peaceably

B)Well in Chapter 15 Saul goes into battle against the Amalekites – brutal ruthless people

1)Think Isis or Hezbollah

C)The Amalekites had a history of Brutal oppression of God's people

In Exodus Children of Israel in the wilderness – they would do a surprise attack from the rear

A)Slaughter all the women and children. – Not in line with the rules of war in those days

B)God never forgot there Brutality

C)God orders Saul as he is going into Battle against them – Destroy them all!

D)Saul has a Victory in battle – Brings back – King Agag as a trophy

Ch.15 Samuel the prophet personally takes care of Saul's disobedience

A)Samuel takes Saul's sword and Hacked Agag to pieces – think Gandolf

B)And the news spread throughout Israel – Samuel is the Angry Prophet

C)So when Samuel shows up in Bethlehem – the leaders of the city are wondering – what his mood is

D)Is he smiling or does he look mad? Is he carrying his staff or a bloody sword?

E)So These Elders are wondering – *Have you come peaceably or are we in trouble too.*

<sup>5</sup>And he said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons, and invited them to the sacrifice.

F) So Jesse lines up his sons – the Magnificent seven  
V. 6 So it was, when they came, that he looked at Eliab and said, "Surely the LORD's anointed is before Him!"

When Samuel sees Eliab he is thinking right away that this is a good Choice

A) Eliab was a carbon copy of Saul – Big strong / tall and handsome – man's man -

7 But 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."

B) Problem was Samuel only saw the OUTWARD MAN – but God saw the Character of His heart –  
1) "Man looks at the outward ..... I look ....heart"

**Here we gain some insight into the Basis of God's Choice!**

A) God looks at the heart!

B) That is often the opposite of how man chooses- we are focused so much on the outward appearance

C) In our culture we base so much on Qualifications credentials and first impressions

D) But a lot of times those first impressions can be a façade – not the real thing

Like Disneyland or Universal Studios – Main street in Disneyland – Fake Buildings

A) Movie sets – looks like a real building on the outside – but it really isn't

B) We see this all the time in our Society  
With Social Media Perfection

C) People often curate their lives on Instagram, TikTok, or Facebook to look flawless, successful,  
1) or endlessly happy.

D) Behind the filter, though, many struggle with anxiety, self-doubt, or everyday hardships.

E) Social media is a highlight reel, not the full story.

Take The "American Dream"

A) The idea that anyone can succeed through hard work alone is a powerful narrative—

B) But often times people charge themselves into incredible credit card debt to appear – Making it

C) But it is all a façade – not real – every month they are going deeper and deeper into debt

D) See it in Marriage – Couple comes across like the perfect couple – perfect family – Façade

1) Behind the Façade is a mess – two people who can't stand each other – staying together for the kids

Here is what we need to remember: God sees behind the façade. – The Highlight reel –

A) He sees what is really going on – He sees the heart!

B) When God is looking for a person that he can use-  
1) he isn't primarily interested in their ability or their talent or what a person has to offer on the outside

C) He is more concerned with who that person is on the INSIDE – the fiber of their heart – Integrity

D) Eliab didn't pass the test

– "When God Chooses to build a man of God – He looks for different timber" - Alan Redpath

E) It didn't matter how good Eliab *looked*, because God said, "*I have refused him.*"

**What was it about David that caught God's eye?**

A) Well back in 1 Samuel 13 – the final straw in Saul's rebellion and disregard for God

B) Saul grew tired of waiting for Samuel to show up and he offered a burnt offering to God –

1) which was an action that was reserved only God's prophet or Priest

C) Samuel declared to Saul – God has rejected you from being King –

"The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart" 1 Samuel 13:14

D) That is what God saw in David – a man after His own heart!

**What does it mean to be a man after God's own heart?**

**A)1<sup>st</sup> it means having a heart like the heart of God.**

B)God watched how David took care of his fathers sheep

1)I like the way that boy – takes care of sheep

C)God's word tells us that People are like Sheep

1)Sheep are dumb –

D)God didn't say all we like Dolphins have gone astray {Dolphins are smart

Sheep are dumb – they go astray – they need a shepherd - So do we – God knows that

A)So God says – I want a king who has a shepherds heart like mine.

B)Who is going to take care of my people the way that I will take care of them.

**2<sup>ND</sup> It describes a heart that is literally getting "AFTER" or pursuing the heart of God**

A)David was getting *After God's heart!*

B)David was a young man who was a pursuer of God!

C)The More we pursue God – the closer we get to God the more like him we become

D)Acts 4 – The religious leaders could tell that Peter and John had been with Jesus – 3yrs

1)After 3yrs they were beginning to resemble him

David was a young man who longed for God – 15yrs old at this time

A)David would write in Psalm 42 - As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. Psalm 42:1,2 ESV

B)When I take my dog Redd for a long walk – we arrive home he is panting – right to his water dish

C)He isn't interested in anything else – but Water

D)That was David's heart for God- longing to know God be close to God – experience God

“One thing I have desired of the Lord, That will I seek:

That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple.” Psalm 27:4

Knowing God was David's passion – his desire and his pursuit – what is sought after.

A)David would get off track in his life only when that ceased to be his passion and pursuit

B)Note: There is an innocence and purity in David's life when he is younger – teenager

1)Who God was consumed him –

C)He writes many of his Psalms – Songs of praise when he was young

D)As we go through this study – I want you to notice how David loses that passion at times as he gets older

1)The more responsibility he gets the easier it is for him to lose that focus

E)Every adult in this room can relate to that reality –

1)But as we go through this study – we will also see how David Recovers His passion and pursuit for God

**Pause and ask this question: What is your one thing?**

A)What is your Passion and pursuit ? What gets you out of bed each day?

B)What is your heart panting for the most – Is it Jesus?

C)That is what he wants from us.

D)The Lord declared in Jeremiah 29:13 <sup>13</sup> And you will seek Me and find *Me*, when you search for Me with all your heart

E)“God is the rewarder of those who diligently seek him.” Hebrews 11:6

1)He rewards us with more of himself

**So God Choose David first and foremost because he saw in David a young man who longed for God.**

A)I am blessed by many of the Young people in this church – long for God. – Revival

B)Keep that up – your passion is contagious

C)BIG IDEA: Man looks at the outward appearance but God looks at the heart.

8 So Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one."9 Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one."

10 Thus Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen these.

A)So Jesse has seven of his sons pass before Samuel – Seven is the number of Completion or perfection

B)Redpath – Jesse's seven sons represented the perfection of the Flesh/ outwardly they fit the criteria – but God is not interested in refining the flesh

11 And Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all the young men here?" Then he said, "There remains yet the youngest, and there he is, keeping the sheep."

C)Note that – Jesse didn't even call David –

1)and it wasn't like David was off far away in some field – He was visibly near

D)But Jesse didn't even bother to call David – in his mind – it couldn't have been David

The Hebrew language here is helpful – Youngest didn't just refer to the least in age

A)It referred to the person who was the most insignificant in the eyes of others.

B)That is how David's father and brothers saw him – a lesser than – insignificant

C)Being a Shepherd was not a noble profession – reserved for those who were not as talented

1)Any Sap could be a shepherd

D)So Jesse was not holding back any secret of his estimation of David

1)He was his insignificant son his unimportant son –

E)He could have said – well there is my youngest son over there with his harp and sling shot tending sheep

1)But surely it can't be him that you are looking for

**Here we see a 2<sup>nd</sup> Characteristic of the Kind of Person that God chooses.**

**A)God often choses people who are overlooked by others**

B)The fact that David – was in eyesight of what was happening – makes me wonder

1)How David felt about not being invited

C)This Wednesday Rick Barsh will be teaching from Psalm 39 – David wrote at this time

1)This Psalm gives us insight into what David might have been feeling – how he was treated by his bros / Dad?

Here is what I want you to catch: David might have been insignificant in his dad's eyes – the eyes of his brothers

A)But he was not insignificant in the eyes of God

B)Exact opposite -He was exactly who God was looking for.

You ever feel insignificant?

A)Note this: Just because not visible doesn't mean you are not Valuable

B)You are Valuable to God and the Bible is full of illustrations of how God worked through ordinary people

C)God loves to take Ordinary people who have the right heart – and do extraordinary things with them

D)He gets the Glory! – How did that happen? God

When God was looking for a Voice – to Preach Gospel in the early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century –

A)Who did he pick? Was it the brightest and most educated Seminary Student? – Nope

B)Humble uneducated Shoe salesman – DL MOODY

C)Teased his Vocab – Using all the English I know to tell people about Jesus – what are YOU DOING WITH YOURS?

D)DL Moody went from selling shoes to saving souls

E)DL Moody was the Billy Graham of his day

Take Billy Graham- he is the greatest modern evangelist in History

A)Through his crusades he has preached the gospel to 215 million people

B)2.2 million people have come to faith in Christ through his preaching – Amazing!!!!

C)Billy Graham didn't go to seminary either.

D)Billy was a tall lanky farm boy – who came to faith in Christ when he was 16 years old

E)Prior to that he was not allowed to attend the local youth group

They said he was a bad influence -too worldly

The Pastors in his community got together to put on a crusade.

A)The invited the Evangelist Mordecai Ham – to come and Preach.

B)That night at the Outreach – Altar call – there was only one person who responded to the gospel

1)16 year old Billy Graham – Amazing

C)When God wanted to reach the Hippies in So Cal in the 1960's– Who did He Pick to minister to them?

B)Hip guy w/ long hair / musician?

C)A humble balding 40 yr old Bible teacher who liked to surf – Chuck Smith

See God picks people like that

A)So when the world looks on they see what God did with that person – Makes no sense to them

B)There has to be a God – this is a God thing!!-

C)So being encouraged – that is often how God works – that is the Basis of God's choice

D)He is looking at the heart – and the often chooses the ones that others overlook.

E)So Jesse says – Yes there is one more – right over there with the sheep – V.11

And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him. For we will not sit down till he comes here" <sup>12</sup> So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with bright eyes, and good-looking. And the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!" <sup>13</sup> Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his

brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah.

So Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel – Seven # of perfection /

**A)But the 8<sup>th</sup> was Chosen – 8 # of New Beginnings**

B)God was going to do a new work in Israel/ a work that needed a New man –

C)One more thing about David that I think made him God's choice –

D)David was Faithful – God uses those who are faithful

1)We will see David's faithfulness as the story plays out

But we see it here in Ch.16 -He has the lowest job in the family – of all the brothers – He was faithful

**A)Biblical Principle: Whoever is faithful in the little things will be blessed with more responsibility.**

B)Where was David when He was called?

C)Sheep tending was one of the lowest of the servants Jobs –

**D)DAVID WAS A HUMBLE SERVANT**

1)*Faithful in the little things – exalted w/ much*

That is what God saw in His Humble servant David

A)David wasn't seeking the lime light –

B)He was faithfully tending His fathers sheep – God saw His Humility – Rewarded Him

"Promotion comes not from the East or from the west but from the Lord" Psalm 75:6

C)The Bible declares that "God resist the proud but He gives grace to the humble." James 4:6

1)Those who Exalt themselves will be brought down but those who humble themselves – lifted up.

D)Starting place for Some of you – here – You need to humble yourself –

1)admit – you don't have it altogether – Sinner – NEED A SAVIOR- Believe and be Baptized

YOU HUMBLE YOURSELF today Our LOVING GOD –Forgive and cleanse and make you New!!

Christian – God is most interested in your heart

A)You might feel over looked by others – God sees you and knows you.

B)Be faithful in the little things – be faithful in serving

C)Sometimes we are wanting a fresh anointing – of power for some new position

D)But God is wanting to anoint us for our present position

E)We need God’s power to be consistent in our present calling.

This is what is so interesting about David’s story – David is anointed as King –

A)But he is sent right back out to the sheepfolds –

B)He is not saying – *But I got oil on my head* – No he humbly goes back to tending sheep

1)Shoveling sheep manure – smelling like sheep  
RUNNING ERRANDS for Dad

C)Not going to be King for another 15 yrs – God is working – BE FAITHFUL

David went right back to the fields – He will not become king until later

A)He doesn’t know that in the next chapter he is going to be fighting Goliath!

B)But God knew – God knows that it is the Field that makes you fit for the fight!

C)God looks for those who are faithful –

D)Faith with what is right in front of you. –

1)Baptism – I don’t need to do that?