

1 Samuel Study Series

Week of September 7: 1 Samuel 16

CHOOSING



Observation

1. Read 1 Samuel chapter 16. What stands out to you in this account?

2. What questions do you have?

Observation: What does it say?

1. What do you notice about the text? Things to look for:

- repeating words and phrases
- Answers to the questions: who, what, when, where and how?
- contrasts and comparisons
- similes and metaphors (images used in the text)
- cause and effect relationships
- details regarding: time, geography, place, people, action in the text
- grammar
- larger themes in the passage
- key words and themes

2. What questions do you have?

Interpretation

1. What do you think it means in verse 7 that 'The Lord looks at the heart'? We know from later on in David's story that he will make some big mistakes. What heart qualities do you think God was looking for?

2. Do you think that being a shepherd helped to prepare David for kingship? How might a shepherd be the model of kingship that God has in mind?

Interpretation

The goal here is to answer questions raised by the text and to get at the central message of the passage itself.

What did the text mean for the original audience?

How might you summarize the central point of the passage?

Application

1. What does the way that God chose David tell us about the way that God chooses us?

2. Do you think that God uses our past experiences to prepare us for what he has next for us? How have you seen this in your life?

Suggestions for Prayer

Pray for openness to God's calling on your life.

Pray for the ability to love God wholeheartedly.