

# THE LIFE OF DAVID: HEARING GOD'S CALL

A Lord's Flock General Assembly Topic

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David, the youngest son of Jesse was a shepherd and later became one of the greatest kings of Israel. He was called by God through the prophet Samuel when God was disappointed with Saul, king of Israel, because of his deliberate disobedience to the Lord. God instructed Samuel to look for Jesse's family, so he went to Bethlehem. Jesse presented all his sons except David, for he considered him not king material. However, Samuel knew that there was still one son and insisted to meet him. God rejected all the elder brothers because God saw the heart of David, an obedient son. He then anointed David and from that day on, the spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David (1 Sam. 16:1-13).

## 1. The selection of David teaches us something about God's nature.

- 1.1. He does not choose based of human standards. David's elder brothers were strong, skilled, and seemingly more suitable in the eyes of men, but they were rejected because their hearts were not aligned with God's will. God's choice of David wasn't because he was perfect or powerful. In fact, David would later make significant mistakes, but his heart remained humble and repentant. He wasn't just a warrior or a ruler; he was a man after God's own heart (Acts 13:22).
- 1.2. Similarly, we have been given a vision, a promise, or a dream; but it seems like it is taking forever to come to pass. God anoints us secretly too, long before we are revealed to the world. There is a divine preparation happening in the quiet, unnoticed places of our lives. David had to tend sheep before he could tend a nation. He had to fight off predators in the wilderness before he faced Goliath. God was shaping him in the background and equipping him for his future.

## 2. Who were the influencers of David:

- 2.1. **Samuel.** He anointed David in the presence of his brothers (1 Sam 16: 13). Who is your Samuel? Show gratitude to the "Samuel" who lifts and empowers you.
- 2.2. **Goliath.** David's ultimate purpose was not only to conquer Goliath by his sling and stone but to serve the Lord (1 Sam. 17:50-53). What is your cause? No matter how big your "Goliath" is, he can fall if you believe God's power; don't rely on what you can do.
- 2.3. **Bathsheba.** David committed adultery with Bathsheba and had her husband killed in battle (2 Sam. 11). Who is your biggest weakness or temptation?
- 2.4 **Nathan.** David was both a sinner and a saint. He heeded the call of God through the prophet, Nathan, and thereafter repented and lived a penitential life. At the end, restoration by God is at hand. Who is the "Nathan" in your life? He was sent by God to truly care for you and correct you if you do something wrong.

**Conclusion:** The story of David is an illustration of God's grace, wisdom, and sovereignty; "the stone rejected by the builders had become a cornerstone" (Acts 4:11). We may find ourselves in similar situations – insignificant, overlooked, underestimated. But God sees what others do not. He looks beyond our circumstances, our appearance, or what people say about us. He looks straight into our hearts.

### Reflection:

1. What does God see in your heart that others overlook? How can you cultivate a heart that is humble and aligned with God's will?
2. Who are the people that God sent to care for you lead you to Him?

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