I SAMUEL 16:1-13

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."

2 But Samuel said, "How can I go? Saul will hear about it and kill me."

The LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate."

4 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?"

5 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.

6 When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed stands here before the LORD."

7 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 man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

8 Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, "The LORD has not chosen this one either."

9 Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, "Nor has the LORD chosen this one."

10 Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, "The LORD has not chosen these."

11 So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?"

12 So he sent and had him brought in. He was ruddy, with a fine appearance and handsome features.

13 Then the LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; he is the one."

13 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 upon David in power. Samuel then went to Ramah.

OBSERVATION #1 - When it comes to the kind of person God seeks, God’s priorities are not man’s priorities
Verse 6 - When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed stands here before the LORD."

Verse 7 - "The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”

God's priorities are not man's priorities.

What God cares most about in his people, is what’s on the inside.

OBSERVATION #2 - God saw something in David that nobody else could see, God saw his heart.

David is referred to as “a man after God’s own heart” (1 Samuel 13:14; Acts 13:22)
4 characteristics of David as “A man after God’s own heart”:

1. David was humble before the Lord
   - Psalm 16:2 “You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing.”

2. David was obedient to the Lord
   - Acts 13:22 “I have found David son of Jesse a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.”

3. David was contrite in the eyes of the Lord
   - 2 Samuel 12:13 “I have sinned against the Lord.”

4. David was a lover of the word of the Lord
   - Psalm 119:97 “Oh, how I love your instructions! I think about them all day long.”

4 characteristics of David

1. David was humble before the Lord
2. David was obedient to the Lord
3. David was contrite in the eyes of the Lord
4. David was a lover of the word of the Lord

OBSERVATION #3 - God has a habit of confounding the wisdom of the world
1 Corinthians 1:25-2:5
25 For the foolishness of God is wiser than man’s wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man’s strength.
26 Brothers, 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. 27 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.
28 He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, 29 so that no one may boast before him. 30 It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.
31 Therefore, as it is written: “Let him who boasts boast in the Lord.”

why God loves choosing the underdog:
1. Because God delights in displaying his power in our weakness – v. 25
2. Because God wants us to boast in him alone- vs. 26-31
3. Because God wants our faith to rest not in our abilities, but in his power- 2:4-5

Implications of this passage for us today...

God takes what is foolish in the eyes of the world and he uses it so that his name might be lifted high.
IMPLICATION #1 - Guard your heart & cultivate Godly character

IMPLICATION #2 - Know that your identity is ultimately rooted in Jesus Christ - the world does not define you, Jesus defines you!

IMPLICATION #3 - Let your weaknesses be opportunities for God’s power to be manifested through you - you don’t have to be perfect, you just need to be willing.

IMPLICATION #4 - Let your strengths point others to Jesus & give him the glory - all we are and all we have are ultimately for God's glory, not ours.

IMPLICATION #5 - Get your heart right

Romans 3:23 all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 6:23 the wages of sin is death, the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.
the first and most important step in becoming that man or woman of God is giving your heart fully to him