CHAPTER 11
From Shepherd to King
I & II SAMUEL

THE STORY
Introduction

Sometimes we need someone who believes in us to bring out the best in us.

God can use anyone whose heart is fully devoted to him.
I. David is anointed as king.

I SAMUEL 16-17
God saw potential in David when others did not.

- Jesse, his father, called him the “runt” of the litter. 16:11
- Eliab accused David of being conceited and lazy. 17:28
- Saul liked David but saw him as an armor bearer, not the next king of Israel. 16:21
- Even Samuel thought Eliab would be the Lord’s “anointed”.

THE STORY
“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.”

1 Samuel 16:7
What did God see in David?

• David was faithful in his work. – 16:11
• David had courage. – 17:34-35
• David used his time well.
• David had a big view of God.
“Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?” I Samuel 17:26

David is sent to face this giant, Goliath.

“I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.” I Samuel 17:45

How big is your God?
21“Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the earth was founded?

22 He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in.
23 He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing.
24 No sooner are they planted, no sooner are they sown, no sooner do they take root in the ground, than he blows on them and they wither, and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff.
“To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?” says the Holy One. 

Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing.
27 Why do you say, O Jacob, and complain, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD; my cause is disregarded by my God"?
28 Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.
29 He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.
30 Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall;
31 but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.
What does it mean to be a man after God’s own heart?

“After removing Saul, he made David their king. He testified concerning him: ‘I have found David son of Jesse a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.’”
Acts 13:22

David had made God’s purposes his purposes.
II. David will go into “boot camp” to be trained as a king.
I SAMUEL 18-31
The Lord was with David and Saul gave him a high rank in the army. But David was so successful the people started singing, “Saul has slain his thousands and David his tens of thousands.” 18:7 Saul was jealous and he tried to kill David.

David would be forced to flee for his life. He would live as a fugitive, depending on God for guidance and protection.
David would wait on God’s timing to become king. 1 Samuel 24

After 14 years of “training”, David would be crowned king.

During this time in David’s life, there was one man who believed in him and became his closest friend – Jonathan, the son of Saul.

Jonathan took off his royal robe, as the prince of Israel, and gave it to David. 18:4
III. David’s life points to “the One” who will come as the Messiah.
David wanted to build a house for God’s glory. God said to David, “I will build a house (dynasty) for you.” II Samuel 7:11-16

A thousand years would pass and David would have a son who would come from his line whose kingdom would never end. His name is Jesus.
How are David and Jesus alike?

• Both came from the same city and tribe – Bethlehem and Judah.
• Both were representatives (champions) for their people.
• Both were sent by their father into battle.
• Both were rejected by their brothers.
• Both had to wait on God for their time to come.
• Both were shepherds who risked their life for their sheep.
• Both won a decisive victory. Their victory is our victory.
Conclusion

What do we learn from this chapter of the story?

- The Lord doesn’t look at the outward appearance, but at the heart.
- We all need just one person in our life (a Jonathan) who will see us with great potential – who sees what God wants us to be.
- Just as God tested David and Jesus, so he will test us so we can develop character and integrity to represent him in this world.

God can use anyone whose heart is fully devoted to him.