



The LIFE of DAVID

Sunday, March 9, 2025

TITLE: The Shepherd

TEXT: 1 Samuel 16

A LIFE IN FOUR ACTS

1. SHEPHERD (childhood - adolescence)
2. WARRIOR (young adulthood)
3. KING (adulthood)
4. SAGE (senior)

ACT 1: SHEPHERD

Psalm 78:70-72 – He chose David his servant and took him from the sheep pens; he brought him from tending ewes to be shepherd over his people Jacob— over Israel, his inheritance. He shepherded them with a pure heart and guided them with his skillful hands.

THE STORY SO FAR

SAMUEL: Prophet, Judge, _____

1 Samuel 8:4-5 – *The elders of Israel said to Samuel, "...appoint a _____ to judge us the same as all the other nations have."*

SAUL: Strong Man, Weak _____

1 Samuel 13:13-14 & 15:26-28 – "The Lord has found a man after his own _____, and the Lord has appointed him as ruler over his people, because you have not done what the Lord commanded."

"The Lord has torn the kingship of Israel away from you today and has given it to your neighbor who is _____ than you."

LESSON #1: CHARACTER MATTERS

Saul was a strong man with weak character.

God was looking for a leader with _____ and _____, who would lean on God for strength.

MEANWHILE...

DAVID: Shepherd, Youngest of 8 Brothers

Lynn Anderson: "Life's most valuable character traits develop only during time at the bottom of the totem pole."

1) _____, 2) _____, 3) _____

LESSON #2: USE YOUR "FIELD" TIME WISELY

David uses his time in the field to...

- develop _____ skills
- perfect the use of his sling
- play music and write songs
- learn _____ skills

THE HOUSE OF JESSE

- The Kingship belongs to the tribe of _____ (*see Gen. 49:8-10*)
- God has a heart for the younger siblings (Abel, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses)
- God favors _____ (Abel, Abraham, Jacob, Moses)

J.S. Park: "I think David was chosen because he didn't want to be the king. He thought he was a _____. And that's the sort of person God is looking for: someone who isn't singing his own praises."

LESSON #3: EACH ONE OF US HAS BEEN CHOSEN, ANOINTED BY GOD, & FILLED WITH HIS SPIRIT.

Mark Rutland: "You are where you are right now because where you are is where God wants to use you right now."

1 Timothy 4:12 – Don't let anyone despise your _____, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity.

"SON OF DAVID"

John 10:11 – "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his _____ for the sheep."

GOING DEEPER | Study & Discussion Questions

1. Read 1 Samuel 13:1-14 and 15:1-29. What did Saul do to make God reject him as king and remove his dynasty from him?
2. What was God looking for in the person who would lead his people? What should we look for in our leaders? Does character still matter?
3. What lessons and values did David learn during his time as a shepherd? What lessons did you learn as a child/teenager that benefited you later in life?
4. What do you think God saw in David to anoint him as king? What do you think God is looking for in the hearts of those who follow him today?

ONE (MORE) CHALLENGE

one small step of discipleship every week

Spend at least one hour in nature this week. Connect with God's creation.



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