

1 Samuel 16—God Looks at the Heart!

[#1] We call this God's "_____"—God was always looking toward this day!

(1 Sam. 15:10-11a, 35; Psalm 119:139 NLT; 37:4; Gen. 17:6, 15b-16; 35:11; Deut. 17:14-15)

Spiritual conflict comes:

[#2] in _____ we want these blessings

[#3] and _____ we go about getting them

[#4] whether we're willing to _____ on God to bring them about.

[#5] *Uncontrolled desires lead to _____ ends.*

Man is created as a "trinity:"

(Prov. 23:7; 4:23 NLT; Matt. 6:21; Isaiah 14:13-14)

[#6] With our **MIND** we _____ about God and **learn** how to **love God** and others...

[#7] With our **EMOTIONS** we **feel** and _____ to God's **love**...

[#8] With our **WILL** we _____ to **love** and **obey** and **trust** God...

[#9] It was the **heart** of David that **chose** to admit his sin and _____! And it was the evil **heart** of Saul that **chose** to find _____ and protect his pride!

(Psalm 51:10)

[#10] David is known as "a man after God's heart" because he is _____ to the leading of the Spirit...

(Isaiah 61:1; Acts 2:3-4; Deut. 30:6 NLT; 2 Sam. 23:1)

[#11] God's Holy Spirit has been God's hedge of _____ for Saul. God has given **us** protective barriers—given to us to protect us from within and without!

(Deut. 5:29; Psalm 119:11; 1 Jn. 4:4; 2 Chron. 20:15, 21-22)

1 Samuel 16—God Looks at the Heart!

[#1] We call this God's "**OMNISCIENCE**"—God was always looking toward this day!

Spiritual conflict comes:

[#2] in **WHY** we want these blessings

[#3] and **HOW** we go about getting them

[#4] whether we're willing to **WAIT** on God to bring them about.

[#5] *Uncontrolled desires lead to **UNDESIRABLE** ends.*

Man is created as a "trinity:"

[#6] With our **MIND** we **THINK** about God and **learn** how to **love God** and others...

[#7] With our **EMOTIONS** we **feel** and **RESPOND** to God's **love**...

[#8] With our **WILL** we **CHOOSE** to **love** and **obey** and **trust** God...

[#9] It was the **heart** of David that **chose** to admit his sin and **REPENT**! And it was the evil **heart** of Saul that **chose** to find **EXCUSES** and protect his pride!

[#10] David is known as "a man after God's heart" because he is **SENSITIVE** to the leading of the Spirit...

[#11] God's Holy Spirit has been God's hedge of **PROTECTION** for Saul. God has given **us** protective barriers—given to us to protect us from within and without!

- 8) David wasn't considered to be very special - yet God chose him to be the future king! How do the following verses prove that you are important to God?

Psalm 139:13-14 - "[13] For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. [14] I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well."

Ephesians 2:10 - "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."

Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope."

What do you think we can do to help find the balance of knowing our worth in Jesus (not self-loathing, while also not self-worship)?

TAKING IT HOME

- 9) Looking back at your notes and homework, what do you most need to remember or put into practice?

PRAYER REQUESTS

- ▶ Pray for the persecuted church in China.
- ▶
- ▶

Summer Life Homework **For the week of July 17, 2022**

Welcome to Summer Life! Life Groups are on break for the summer. **However, join us on Wednesdays at 6:30pm at church for Summer Life.** Similar to Life Groups, we'll gather together to discuss the following questions, encourage one another, pray, and fellowship. Instead of multiple Life Groups meeting in different places, Summer Life invites everyone to come join one, big group discussion. **Childcare is provided.** Please take some time to answer the following questions so you're best prepared for the discussion.

REVIEW

- 1) In your own words, give a brief summary of what happened in 1 Samuel 16.

- 2) Looking back at your notes, what stood out to you from this week's message in 1 Samuel 16? (Favorite point? Questions? etc..)

DIGGING DEEPER

- 3) This week we were reminded not to look at outward appearances, because God looks at the heart (1 Samuel 16:7). What does the following verse mean to you?

Luke 6:43-45 - "[43] For a good tree does not bear bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. [44] For every tree

is known by its own fruit. For men do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they gather grapes from a bramble bush. [45] "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks."

In what way(s) does this passage correct the wrong ideas of our flesh or the world?

- 4) What confuses you or stands out to you from the following passage?

James 3:1-10 - "[1] My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment. [2] For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body. [3] Indeed, we put bits in horses' mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body. [4] Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires. [5] Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles! [6] And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell. [7] For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind. [8] But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. [9] With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God. [10] Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so."

When we find our words revealing the sinfulness of our heart, what do you think we can do to "change" our heart?

- 5) Read the following passage. Then answer the question - What do you think it means to guard your heart?

Proverbs 4:20-27 NLT - "[20] My child, pay attention to what I say. Listen carefully to my words. [21] Don't lose sight of them. Let them penetrate deep into your heart, [22] for they bring life to those who find them, and healing to their whole body. [23] Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life. [24] Avoid all perverse talk; stay away from corrupt speech. [25] Look straight ahead, and fix your eyes on what lies before you. [26] Mark out a straight path for your feet; stay on the safe path. [27] Don't get sidetracked; keep your feet from following evil."

- 6) Job gives us a good example of one way to guard our hearts - Job 31:1 NLT - "I made a covenant with my eyes not to look with lust at a young woman." Can you think of other examples (either in real life, or in Scripture) of how people guarded their hearts, or how they failed to guard their heart?
- 7) In 1 Samuel 16, when God removed His Spirit from Saul, he began to be distressed by an evil spirit. Why do you think God allowed Saul to be distressed by an evil spirit?