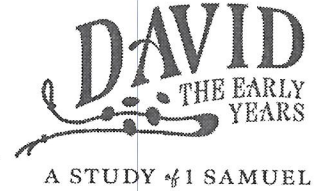


1 SAMUEL 15-16

February 9-10, 2022



1. The kingship of Israel experiences challenges and transitions from its very beginning. Chapters 15 and 16 of 1 Samuel mark a key turning point in that kingship. Read 1 Samuel 15:1. What is the important word in this command for Saul?

2. Read 1 Samuel 15:2-9. What does God command King Saul to do in 1 Samuel 15:3?

What is the reason for God's call to justice? Read 1 Samuel 15:2, Exodus 17:8-16 and Deuteronomy 25:17-19.

What do you learn about God through this story of justice?

3. Read 1 Samuel 15:10-22. Record how Saul grieves the Lord in verses 10-11.

How does Saul continue to dishonor God in verse 12?

What grieves Samuel about Saul in verse 19?

4. Read 1 Samuel 15:22-23. What does the Lord desire more than burnt offerings, sacrifices and the fat of rams?

What are the consequences of Saul's disobedience?

Share a time in your life when you experienced the blessing of obedience, or a time you experienced the consequences of disobedience.

5. Read 1 Samuel 15:24-35. What is the reason Saul gives for disobeying God's instructions in 1 Samuel 15:24?

When are you most tempted to listen to the voices of other people instead of God's Word?

What most helps you to listen to and obey God's Word instead of the voices of other people?

6. Read 1 Samuel 16:1 along with 1 Samuel 15:26-28. What do you learn about the kingship of Israel?

Read also 1 Samuel 16:2-5. How does Samuel initially feel about the assignment God gave him?

How does God respond to Samuel's concern?

Does Samuel obey or disobey God's Word?

7. Read 1 Samuel 16:6-13. We see God's priority in choosing the new king. In your own words, summarize 1 Samuel 16:7.

David had an imperfect but incredible heart for the Lord. In the following verses, what do you learn about David's heart and obedience?

1 Chronicles 29:10, 17-19

Psalms 86:11-12

Acts 13:16-22

The word "heart" used in the Bible is more than just feelings. It is the deep motivations, intentions and trajectory of a person's life—the "real" you. We see a significant difference in Saul's heart and David's heart in 1 Samuel 15-16. Read the following verses and describe what you learn about the heart.

Jeremiah 17:9-10

Ezekiel 36:25-27

Matthew 22:34-40

Luke 6:43-45

8. We must take a careful look at our own hearts and not be fooled by them. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you areas in your own heart where you have produced good fruit and some areas where you have produced bad fruit.

What steps can you take to incline your heart toward the Lord? Ask the Holy Spirit for help.

9. Reread 1 Samuel 16:12-13. Though he will not rule until many years later, David is anointed as Israel's next king. This event is significant in the life of Israel and the entire Bible. It points to the King of Kings, Jesus. In the following verses, what connections do you see between David's life and kingship and that of Jesus?

Isaiah 9:6-7

Matthew 1:1

Luke 1:32-33

10. Read 1 Samuel 16:13-23. In verses 13-14, what two significant events occur?

How is David described by one of the young men in 1 Samuel 16:18?

We see the Holy Spirit use David right away. How does David serve Saul?

How does Saul respond to David in 1 Samuel 16:21-22?

11. In 1 Samuel 15-16, obedience, the heart and the Holy Spirit are interconnected. How have you experienced these three at work together in your life?

12. Write out a personal prayer request in one or two sentences to share with your small group.

An Essential Combination

1 Samuel 15-16

Obedience

Obedience is doing what God says to do.

Saul lives a life of _____ . 15:1-35

- God gives a command to Saul.
- Saul disobeys God.
- Samuel confronts Saul about Saul's disobedience.
- Saul offers explanations and excuses for his disobedience.
- Samuel explains to Saul again the importance of obedience.
- Saul and others experience the consequences of Saul's disobedience.

Samuel lives a life of _____ . 16:1-5

- God gives a command to Samuel.
- Samuel expresses his concern to God.
- God provides Samuel further guidance.
- Samuel obeys God.
- Samuel and others experience the blessings of Samuel's obedience

Listen to God's commands. Take your concerns and questions to Him. Obey.

The Heart 16:6-13

The heart is the deep motivations, intentions, and trajectory of a person's life – the inner, real you.

God looks not at outward appearance but at the _____.

God chooses David, the man after His heart, and Samuel anoints David as king.

David's anointing as king points forward to the perfect King, Jesus.

Ask God to search and renew your heart to become more like His.

The Work of the Holy Spirit 16:14-23

In the New Testament, the Holy Spirit teaches, sanctifies, helps, encourages, equips, and indwells believers.

The Holy Spirit departs from Saul after Saul's disobedience and the removal of his kingship.

The Holy Spirit enables David to be a man of character as the anointed king.

The Holy Spirit enables David to _____ others as the anointed king.

Look to and depend on the Holy Spirit always. You are not alone.

Ask the Holy Spirit to incline your heart toward God and empower your obedience.

David – The Early Years – 1 Samuel 15-16

February 9-10, 2022

DEUTERONOMY 25:17-19 “Remember what Amalek did to you on the way as you came out of Egypt, how he attacked you on the way when you were faint and weary, and cut off your tail, those who were lagging behind you, and he did not fear God. Therefore when the LORD your God has given you rest from all your enemies around you, in the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance to possess, you shall blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven; you shall not forget.”

LUKE 6:43-45 “For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, for each tree is known by its own fruit. For figs are not gathered from thornbushes, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.”

ACTS 13:22 “[H]e raised up David to be their king, of whom he testified and said, ‘I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will.’”

1 CHRONICLES 29:19 “Grant to Solomon my son a whole heart that he may keep your commandments, your testimonies, and your statutes.”

PSALM 27:4 One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.

LUKE 1:32-33 “He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

GALATIANS 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-7 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.