

Becoming a Person that God Can Use

1 Samuel 16-17

December 10, 2023

1. David's Background (16:1-13)

- a. David was born in Bethlehem (16:1-5).
 - i. Bethlehem was where Ruth married Boaz and gave birth to Obed, David's grandfather.
 - ii. Bethlehem was a small, seemingly insignificant town (Micah 5:2).
- b. David was the eighth and youngest son in his family (16:6-10).
 - i. When Samuel invited Jesse and his family to the sacrifice, Jesse left David home to tend the sheep.
 - ii. God saw something in David that no one else could see (6-10).
- c. David was chosen by God (16:12-13).
 - i. David was not chosen because he was handsome; he was chosen because he was a man after God's own heart (1 Samuel 13:14; Psalm 34:18-22).
 - ii. David's work as a shepherd became a proving ground for his development as a man of God and a leader.

2. David's Preparation

- a. David's preparation met opportunity (16:14-23).
 - i. He was cunning in playing the harp (18).
 - ii. He was a mighty valiant man (18).
 - iii. He was a man of war (18).
 - iv. He was prudent in matters (18).
 - v. He was a handsome young man (18).
 - vi. The Lord was with him (18).
 - vii. He exceeded expectations (21-22).
 - viii. He refreshed Saul's spirit (23).
- b. David's preparation created an opportunity (17:12-37).
 - i. David is still too young to fight, and he returns to keep his father's sheep (17:12-15).
 - ii. David brings his brothers food on the front lines and witnesses Goliath's defiance (17:16-25).
 - iii. David responds with a zeal for God's glory and for the nation of Israel (17:26-30).
 - iv. David knew that God would deliver him from Goliath just as He delivered him from a lion and a bear (17:31-37).

3. David's Triumph

- a. David chose weapons he had already mastered (38-40).
- b. David engaged the enemy (40).
- c. David fought for the glory of God rather than his own glory (41-47).
- d. David charged toward Goliath and killed him just as he said he would (42-51).
- e. David's victory prepared the way for Israel's victory (52-53).
- f. David's victory prepared the way for future victory (54-58).
 - i. David kept Goliath's head as a trophy and brought it with him later to Jerusalem (2 Kings 5:1-10).
 - ii. David consecrated Goliath's sword to God which would later become the sword he carried when running from Saul (1 Samuel 21:9).

Conclusion:

1. Are you waiting for your situation to change before you start serving God?
2. Are you leveraging your current situation to draw nearer to God?
3. Are you leveraging your current situation to become what God wants you to become?
4. Have you taken inventory of the ways that God has prepared you and is preparing you for life and ministry?
5. What competencies do you need to develop to conquer your fears and live courageously?