

October 20, 2013

Lesson 7: Call of David



1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, 'How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.' Samuel said, 'How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.' And the Lord said, 'Take a heifer with you, and say, "I have come to sacrifice to the Lord." Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.' Samuel did what the Lord

commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, 'Do you come peaceably?' He said, 'Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.' And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord.' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.' Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen any of these.' Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.' He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, 'Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Call of David

1 Samuel 3:1-21

“For the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”

October 20, 2013

The Big Story Truth: God sees more than outward appearance. God sees our hearts.

About This Scripture Passage: Samuel, who we met as a boy last week, is all grown up in this passage. And God is still speaking to Samuel. In the years in between the reading for last week and today, Samuel had anointed a King for Israel - King Saul. But unfortunately, by the time we get to today's passage, King Saul was no longer listening to God and God's representatives. And so, God told Samuel to go and anoint the boy that would become the next king. Samuel was certain it would be the oldest son, but that's not who God chose. It was the youngest of the sons, a little shepherd boy named David, that God chose.

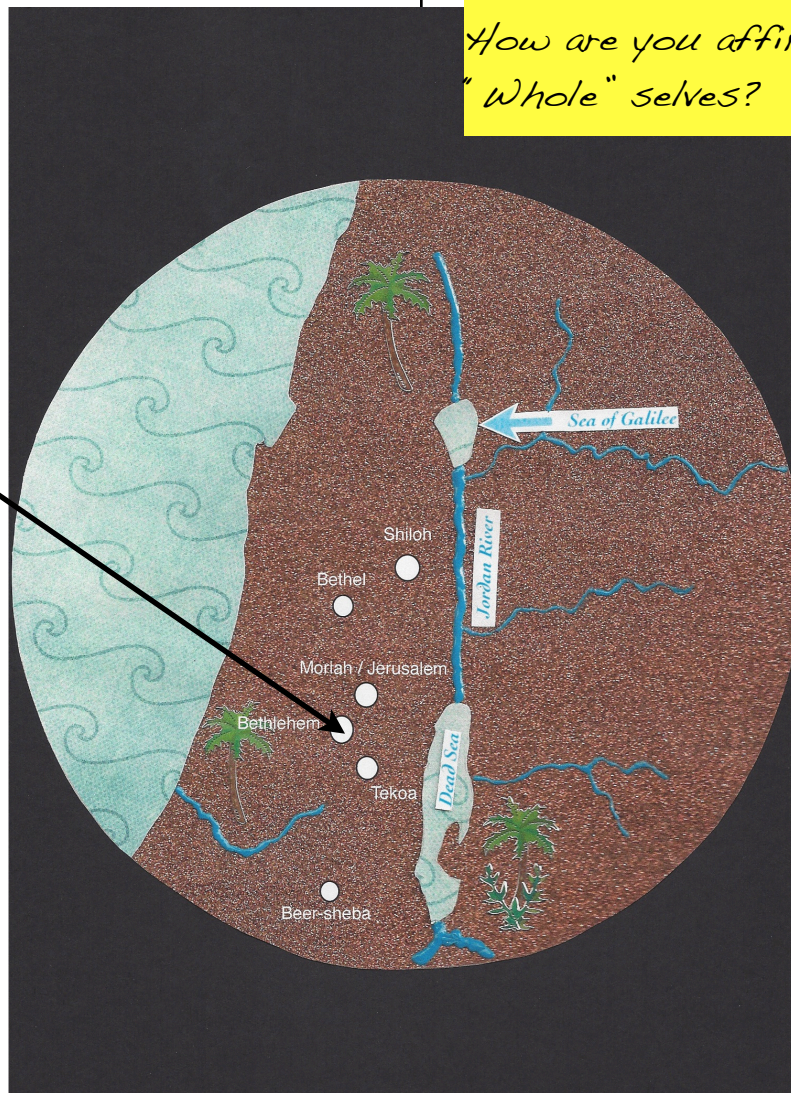


Anointing was the means of investing someone with power or consecrating someone or something as holy. The anointing of kings was done by pouring oil on their head. Kings were referred to as “the Lord’s anointed,” which eventually became the Hebrew term “Messiah” and the Greek word “Christ” signifying that Jesus was the king who would rule forever!

Making the Connection: Appearance is so important to youth. Here is a case in which it was not just someone who was young who was chosen by God, but it was someone who from all outside observances wasn't the strongest or the best option. This passage makes clear that God delights in the hearts of God's people. David may have started out as the little shepherd boy, but he turned out to be a mighty king! In fact, God's Holy Spirit empowered David to do remarkable things and to be known as the greatest king in Israel's history!

Where in the World Are We?

David is from the city of Bethlehem. This is familiar to us from the Christmas story when we hear about Jesus' parents traveling to Bethlehem, "the city of David."



For Your Reflection:

What thoughts do you have about your own outward appearance?

How does it feel to know that God sees further than skin deep?

Who else in your life sees and loves the whole you?

How are you affirming your kids' "Whole" selves?

Large Group Gathering

Welcome kids and their families to Sunday School this morning. Say: **Today for our Family Faith 5, I would like the youngest in the family to come up and get your Faith 5 handout. (If the youngest person in your family is too small to come up themselves, you can help them come up!) If you are here by yourself today, jump in with another group. Remember you can always do this with your family at home tonight!**

Hand out the Faith 5 sheets and give groups 5 minutes to talk. Parents and adults can be dismissed to the adult class after the 5 minutes are up, and you can continue on with opening for the Sunday School kids.

Say: **Who remembers what our story last week was about? Right! God spoke to a boy named Samuel. Well, in our story for today Samuel is all grown up. But God is still choosing young kids to do big things! Our story for today is about how God called Samuel to go and pick a new king for God's people. You might think it was strong grown up, right? Nope! God chose the youngest little shepherd boy named David to be the next king. God didn't look at what David looked like on the outside compared to his brothers. God looked at his heart. Let's sing a song about that!**

Sing "The Lord Looks at the Heart."

Continue with singing any other favorite songs and then dismiss kids to their classrooms.

Family Faith 5

October 20, 2013

1. Each person shares their high and low (the best and worst things that happened this week.)
2. Read together this Bible Verse:
“For the Lord does not see as people see; they look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”
3. Talk about how the Bible verse relates to your highs and lows.
4. Pray aloud for one another's highs and lows.
5. Bless one another. Make the sign of the cross on each other's heads and say these words: _____, God sees the beauty of your heart and I do too!

Preschool

Materials Needed:

- Paper crowns (like the kind from Burger King)
- Spark Story Bible
- Cone shaped paper cups (available from office supply stores or online)
- Oil (olive oil or essential oil safe for skin)
- Scratch and Sniff Watercolors (packets of drink mix and water)
- Muffin tin or small containers for storing paint
- Copies of the handout for each student
- Paint brushes
- Marshmallows or other sheep snack

Before the Children Arrive:

Before class, prepare the Scratch and Sniff Watercolor paints according to the recipe below.

Experiencing the Story:

Welcome children into the classroom and gather them together around the table or carpet. Ask: **How many of you have brothers and sisters? Are they older or younger than you? (Ok, so some of you are the youngest in your family.)** In today's story we are going to hear about a boy named David who had lots of brothers. He was the youngest in his family too. All his brothers were bigger and stronger than David. But do you know what? God didn't pay attention to how big or strong the other brothers looked. God looked at the hearts and saw that David was good and strong and so God chose David to be king! Let's read our story for this morning. But first of all, let's get in the mood of learning about King David by wearing our very own crowns! Pass out paper crowns for each of the students to wear.

Read "David is Chosen" (Spark Story Bible pages 126-129).

Say: **There was a big word in that story. Samuel "anointed" David. Do you know what "anointing" means? Here. Let me show you. Samuel took some oil (pour a little bit of oil into one of the paper cone cups and let the kids look at it. Notice with the kids what it looks and smells like. Let them touch and see what it feels like.)** Say: **Samuel put some oil kind of like this on David's head.**

Maybe he poured a lot of it or maybe he put just a little bit on like this... Put a little bit of oil on the forehead of a volunteer child, or if no one is feeling that brave, do it to yourself to demonstrate first. **The oil was a sign that David would be the next king! That's what "anointing" means. It means to put oil on someone's head to show that they are the one who has been chosen!**

Let's practice anointing. First, you each will need a partner. Have children stand up and face a partner. Now, I'll give you each a little oil. We'll pretend that these cups are horns like what Samuel would have used to put his oil in. After each of the children have a small amount of oil in a paper cone cup, say: **Take your finger and dip it into the oil. Put a little bit on your partner's head and say "God chooses you!"** Show children how to take turns letting their partner anoint them. **Great job! Great anointing!** Collect the oil and pour it back into its container to prevent spills. **You know what? God chooses each of us too. When we were baptized, the pastor put her or his hands in the water and put it on our heads. It's God's way of saying "I choose you!"**

Activity Options:

1. **Scratch and Sniff Watercolors:** Remember with kids what the oil smelled like. Imagine what it would have been like to be in the room when Samuel put that oil on David! It must have smelled good! Paint the coloring page of Samuel anointing David with home made scratch and sniff watercolor paints. Tell kids that when it dries, they can smell their pictures and remember how good it is to be chosen by God!

Scratch and Sniff Watercolor Paint

Ingredients:

1 tbs. unsweetened powdered drink mix (several different colors)

1 tbs. warm water

Several small containers (or something like a muffin tin)

Directions:

Mix water and unsweetened drink mix in a small bowl. Repeat this step several times using various flavors of drink mix to create different colors of paint. Use like normal paint. Let dry overnight before scratching and sniffing.



- 2. Snack- From Shepherd to King:** While Samuel was meeting David's older brothers, David was out in the field taking care of his sheep. Have a snack of fluffy sheep marshmallows with your class. Plain marshmallows work great. (But if you are feeling especially creative, and have lots of extra time preparing your lesson this week, you can get creative like the recipe below!)

Cheerio Sheep

Ingredients:

1 tablespoon butter
1 1/3 cups mini marshmallows (plus additional for assembly)
2 cups either multi-grain and chocolate Cheerios (either chocolate or multi-grain depending on desired sheep's color)
White or dark chocolate chips
Pretzel sticks
Candy Whoppers



Directions:

Melt 1 tablespoon of butter; add marshmallows and stir until melted. Remove from heat and add 2 cups of Cheerios, mix together. Spoon out heaping tablespoon of mixture and use lightly greased hands to mold into egg-like shape. For legs, melt white or dark chocolate chips to use as glue; break pretzel sticks to $\frac{3}{4}$ " lengths and attach to sheep's body. To make the sheep's head: Apply a small amount of melted chocolate to the candy whopper and press it onto the body. For ears, cut mini marshmallows into small pieces and use melted chocolate to glue them on top of head. For eyes, dip toothpick into melted chocolate and add two dots to the face.

Early Elementary

Materials Needed:

- Small flask of olive oil or other essential oil safe for skin
- Spark Story Bible
- Small mirror for each child (such as a locker mirror)
- Heart stickers
- Optional glass paint (purchased or homemade)

Before the Students Arrive:

Set a small flask of oil on the center of the table.

Experiencing the Story:

Gather with students around the table. Ask: **Have any of you ever heard the word “anoint” before?** (If so, ask them how they would define it.) **Back in Bible times, when there was going to be a new king, one of the prophets (one of God’s helpers) would go and anoint the king with oil. Anointing meant pouring or putting some oil on the head of a person to show that they were chosen by God. Let’s read our story today about how Samuel anointed David.**

Read “David is Chosen” (Spark Story Bible pages 126-129.)

Say: **David had lots of older brothers that were bigger and strong than David was. But God didn’t only see those things. God looked at their hearts and God chose David to be king! So Samuel anointed David. Samuel took the oil and put it on David’s head to show that he was chosen.** (Take a bit of the oil from the flask and put it on one of the children’s heads to demonstrate.)

Say: **I have a question for you. Can you think of a time in church when you had something put on your head?** (Kids might answer baptism, or crosses at an Ash Wednesday service or oil used during a healing service.) **Yeah, anointing is a little bit like when we put water on someone’s head when they are baptized. It’s God’s way of saying “I choose you!”**

Not everyone would have thought that David was the right choice to be king, but God knew that he was. God doesn't look at just the outside of people. God sees all of us and no matter what we look like on the outside, chooses all of us to be part of his family!

Activity:

Today for our activity, we are going to make mirrors that remind us of what God sees when he looks at us. I'm going to give you each your own mirror. Do you remember from David's story what God saw when he looked at David? God saw David's heart. So, on these mirrors we are going to put hearts all over them! That way, when you look into these mirrors, you'll remember that God is looking at and loving the whole you! Pass out the individuals mirrors. Show kids how they can stick the heart stickers on the mirror or use purchased or homemade glass paints to paint hearts on their mirror.

Homemade Glass Paint Recipe

Ingredients:

*1/4 cup white school glue
1/4 cup liquid tempera paint*

Directions:

Mix glue and tempera paint in a small bowl. Repeat using a variety of liquid tempera paints to make a variety of glass paint colors. Apply with a paintbrush.

Before you dismiss your class to worship, gather them again and take turns anointing each other with oil and the words: **"Remember you've been chosen by God!"**

Upper Elementary Middle School & High School

Materials Needed:

- 8 Envelopes (each labeled with the number 1-8)
- Copy of instructions to go on the envelopes (see below)
- More envelopes (each labeled with a student's name)
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils
- Cardstock paper (1 sheet per student)
- Glue stick or tape

Before the Students Arrive:

Print off a copy of the silhouette head. Cut it apart on the lines to form puzzle pieces. Put one puzzle piece into each of the 8 numbered envelopes. Repeat the process for as many students as you have in your class. Attach an instruction sheet to each of the envelopes. Hang or place the envelopes around your Sunday School room.

Experiencing the Story:

Welcome students into the room. As they arrive, explain that there are 8 stations around the room with instructions. Give them time to make their way around the stations, taking one paper from each envelope and completing the requested information as they go. (Don't tell them what these pieces of paper are for... its a surprise!) Students do not necessarily need to do the stations in numerical order, but be sure that they only do each station once and that they get to all eight.

When they've made it around to all the stations, have the students turn in their envelopes to you and sit back down. Say: **We'll get back to these in a few minutes. But first of all, its time for us to read our story for today. Today's story comes from the book of 1 Samuel, chapter 3, verses 1 through 21. Let's look that up together. Who would be willing to start reading for us?** Read together the story of David's anointing.

Say: **So Samuel, the boy that we read about last week grew up and even as an old man continued to listen to God. Samuel was the one that God asked to**

anoint the first king of Israel, Saul. And (unfortunately) when Saul stopped being the kind of king that God wanted him to be, God sent Samuel to anoint a new king. Anointing kings by pouring oil on their head was the way of showing who God had chosen to lead the people. When Samuel got to the house God told him to go to, there were lots of great options for kings. The oldest brothers in the house looked like they were the obvious choice... but God saw deeper than what was on the outside. God saw their hearts. And God saw the heart of David, the youngest. David was just a shepherd boy, but God chose him to be the next king. Not only did David become the next king, but God gave him a promise that someone from his family would rule forever!

What do you think about how do we choose our leaders today? How much of human choice is based on what people look like on the outside? How about when you are choosing your friends? Do you think you've ever been chosen for something (or not chosen) because of the way you look?

Activity:

Say: For our activity today, I want us to think a little bit about what we look like, so... let's make some self-portraits! (If the reaction to this happens to be less than positive- Great! Play with that reaction!) Oh but there's just one catch to this assignment. You've already made your self-portraits! These aren't the kind of portraits that show what color eyes you have, or how long your hair is. These portraits are the kind a little closer to what God must see when he looks at you. Give each student back the envelope with their name on it. Also, give them a piece of cardstock. All that's left for you to do now is to put the pieces together. (If after awhile they should happen to get stuck on how to put the pieces together, show the kids the master copy of the silhouette figure so that they can see how the pieces go together.) When they've figured out how the pieces fit together, have them tape or glue their puzzle pieces to the cardstock sheet. Either hang the portraits up in the classroom or send them home with students to put next to a mirror in their house as a reminder that God sees deeper!

If you have extra time: Give students another copy of the silhouette heads and have them make a "deeper" portrait of a fellow classmate including characteristics they see in their friend, things they see their friend is good at, things he/she is passionate about, etc.

Direction: Cut each of the sections below apart and attach to one of the numbered envelopes.

Envelope #1- Take one piece of paper from this envelope. On the gray section of the paper, draw something to represent (or use words to describe) your best memory.

Envelope #2- Take one piece of paper from this envelope. On the gray section of the paper, draw something to represent (or use words to describe) the most challenging obstacle you've overcome.

Envelope #3- Take one piece of paper from this envelope. On the gray section of the paper, draw something to represent (or use words to describe) what you would change about the world if you could.

Envelope #4- Take one piece of paper from this envelope. On the gray section of the paper, draw something to represent (or use words to describe) your proudest accomplishment.

Envelope #5- Take one piece of paper from this envelope. On the gray section of the paper, draw something to represent (or use words to describe) your greatest wish.

Envelope #6- Take one piece of paper from this envelope. On the gray section of the paper, draw something to represent (or use words to describe) a deep conviction, something you believe in so strongly that you would stake your life on it.

Envelope #7- Take one piece of paper from this envelope. On the gray section of the paper, draw something to represent (or use words to describe) the people you love.

Envelope #8- Take one piece of paper from this envelope. On the gray section of the paper, draw something to represent (or use words to describe) a place you love to be or something that you love to do.