

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.”

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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

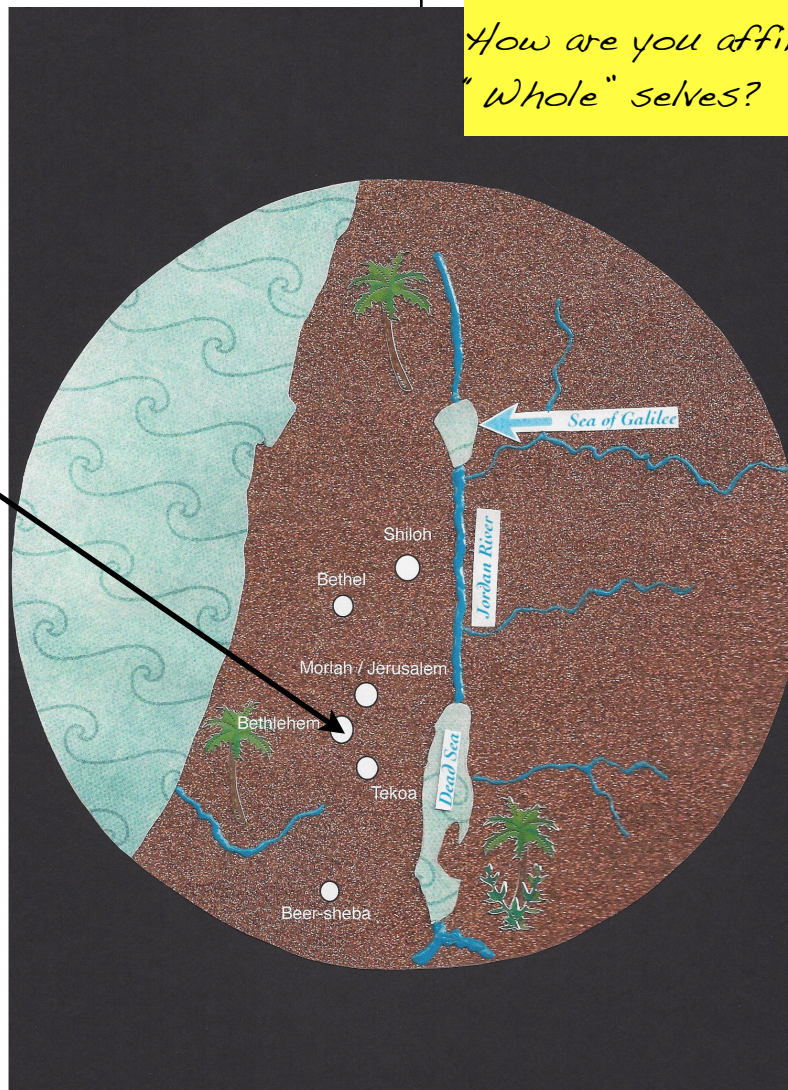


Anointing was the means of investing someone with power or consecrating someone or something as holy. The anointing of kings was done by pouring oil on their head. Kings were referred to as “the Lord’s anointed,” which eventually became the Hebrew term “Messiah” and the Greek word “Christ” signifying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