



Week 1 - 1 Samuel 16: The Making of a Servant - The Anointing

Questions (use some, none, or all to facilitate a discussion with your group):

1. Read 1 Samuel 16:1-13. Now go back to verse 6. Notice that even Samuel thought that physical appearance was a big deal. What are some things that make people impressive in our society that God doesn't really care about?
2. In verse 7, God says what really matters. What is it? What do you think God means by this? How is this encouraging to us? How is this challenging for us?
3. Check out what God's word says about our hearts now that we handed our lives over to Him. Hebrews 8:6-13 (read) tells us that the New Covenant mentioned in the Old Testament applies to Christ-followers. What does this passage tell us about our hearts now? Check out what Ezekiel 36:26 says what God does according to this New Covenant. Also look at Romans 2:29 to see what God does to a Believers heart.

4. David did not just have the heart he needed (like us) but he also had something else. According to verse 13, what was it? According to Romans 8:9-11, what is true about us?

5. God began a process with David to make him into the servant He wanted him to be. David began with the heart and the Spirit. What does Romans 8:28-29 and 2 Corinthians 3:16-18 suggest God has planned for us, who also have the heart and the Spirit?

6. The process God took David through to actually be crowned the king God saw him to be was at least 15 years. Our sanctification journey may take a long time. How can this be good to hear? How can this be hard to hear?

7. What has this passage taught you? What is that one thing you don't want to forget?

Week 2 - 1 Samuel 17: The Making of a Servant - The Champion

Questions (use some, none, or all to facilitate a discussion with your group):

1. **(Do something like this everyone week)** Before we get into sermon discussion questions, let's share about what God has been doing where we live, work, learn, and/or play. Who comes to mind for us to pray for? How have you seen God working with a neighbor where you live, work, learn, play? How have you seen God working with you as you think about showing and sharing Jesus with others? What opportunities, if any, have come up lately where you have been able to join God in showing and sharing Jesus with someone?
2. (You can read the entire chapter together and then come back to these questions) Read verses 8-11, why do you think Saul and all the people were so frightened by Goliath?
3. Read verses 23-26. Why was David not afraid?
4. Read the words of David in verses 34-36. Who rescued the flock? Now read verse 37. Who rescued the flock? Read also verses 45-47 to see who David saw would rescue Israel.
5. What do you think of the expressions, "Do your best, and God will do the rest"? and "God helps those who help themselves"? How does the fact that David recognized that all battles (even against a bear and lion) belong to the Lord, not just the big ones (the battle against the giant), speak against this expression?
6. Does your life show that you believe the battle belongs to the Lord? How does or doesn't it show this?
7. What has this passage taught you? What is that one thing you don't want to forget?

Week 3 - 1 Samuel 18-20: The Making of a Servant - The Plot

1. **(Do something like this everyone week)** Before we get into sermon discussion questions, let's share about what God has been doing where we live, work, learn, and/or play. Who comes to mind for us to pray for? How have you seen God working with a neighbor where you live, work, learn, play? How have you seen God working with you as you think about showing and sharing Jesus with others? What opportunities, if any, have come up lately where you have been able to join God in showing and sharing Jesus with someone?
2. Have there been times in your life when it seems everything is plotting against you? How did your relationship with God prepare you for that experience? How was your relationship with God impacted by that experience?
3. Who in your life might you describe as an "enemy"—Not in the sense that they necessarily want you dead, but in the sense that they make things difficult for you, or seem to regularly oppose you? How might God want to use that person in your life to shape you more into the image of Jesus?
4. We often want God to remove the difficult situations from our lives. How can you begin to view those situations as opportunities for God to shape your character, rather than as challenges that need to be eradicated from your life?
5. In the Garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36-46), Jesus begged the Father to spare him the difficulty of carrying the sins of humanity on the cross. How does it comfort you to know that you can be honest with God about the pain you are facing, just as Jesus was?
6. Jesus realized that ultimately he had to endure the cross, praying to the Father, "not my will, but yours be done." Pray together with your group for strength to trust God's will over our own, no matter how difficult the trials we face may be.
7. What has this passage taught you? What is that one thing you don't want to forget?

Week 4 - 1 Samuel 21-22: The Making of a Servant - The Insanity

1. **(Do something like this everyone week)** Before we get into sermon discussion questions, let's share about what God has been doing where we live, work, learn, and/or play. Who comes to mind for us to pray for? How have you seen God working with a neighbor where you live, work, learn, play? How have you seen God working with you as you think about showing and sharing Jesus with others? What opportunities, if any, have come up lately where you have been able to join God in showing and sharing Jesus with someone?
2. (You can read the entire 2 chapters together and then come back to these questions if you want) In verses 1-9, we find David going to the priest. What seems to be one of David's "flesh patterns" (what technique does he use to get the results he wants)? What are some of your "flesh patterns" (what you rely on, have a habit of doing, when you are not relying on God and His Word)?
3. In these same verses, what are ways that it seems God is trying to get David's attention as he asks for food and weapons?
4. In verses 10-15, how do we see the same "flesh patterns" in David's life? Does it appear that David's techniques for getting what he wants work? What do you think about the statement: "The problem with operating by my flesh isn't that it doesn't work... it's that it does work"?
5. In 22:6-19, what are the consequences to David's decisions? In what ways have you seen consequences over time for your fleshly decisions that work out, or don't have consequences in the moment?
6. In verses 20-23, What did David learn? How did he respond? How can we learn from this too?
7. David wrote Psalm 34 and Psalm 56 as a result of this time in his life. How can we continue to see what David learned as you read these Psalms?
8. What has this passage taught you? What is that one thing you don't want to forget?

Week 5 - 1 Samuel 22-23: The Making of a Servant - The Safe Place

1. **(Do something like this every one week)** Before we get into sermon discussion questions, let's share about what God has been doing where we live, work, learn, and/or play. Who comes to mind for us to pray for? How have you seen God working with a neighbor where you live, work, learn, play? How have you seen God working with you as you think about showing and sharing Jesus with others? What opportunities, if any, have come up lately where you have been able to join God in showing and sharing Jesus with someone?
2. David goes from, "removing trust in God in order to trust in himself" to "remove trusting in himself to trust in God". What are some situations in your life that you've wrestled with trusting in yourself or trusting in God?
3. Have ya ever done the hard but right thing, that took selfless risk and faith, and then afterwards great opposition and attack came upon your life? explain
4. V 9 says, "David knew that Saul was plotting harm against him. And he said to Abiathar the priest, "Bring the ephod here" – For us this would be Gods word and Prayer. What is your "go to" for life's difficult direction? self / family / friends / or God?? –Explain
5. Sometimes we find a SAFE place in God is at the expense of living in a safe place.. in fact an unsure, unsafe, unknown place is the very thing that gives the opportunity to find a SAFE place in God. What does this mean to you?
6. What has this passage taught you? What is that one thing you don't want to forget?

Week 6 - 1 Samuel 24-26: The Making of a Servant - The Submission

Questions (use some, none, or all to facilitate a discussion with your group):

1. **(Do something like this everyone week)** Before we get into sermon discussion questions, let's share about what God has been doing where we live, work, learn, and/or play. Who comes to mind for us to pray for? How have you seen God working with a neighbor where you live, work, learn, play? How have you seen God working with you as you think about showing and sharing Jesus with others? What opportunities, if any, have come up lately where you have been able to join God in showing and sharing Jesus with someone?
2. (If you want, you can read the entire chapter together and then come back to these questions) In 24:12, what was David's view of God's involvement with his conflict with Saul? What was David trusting God with?
3. In 26:8-10, in David's discussion with Abishai, what other things do we find that David believes about Saul and about God?
4. Now, read 25:1-22. How does David view the situation with Nabal and God's involvement differently here? Why do you think he views this so different? After all, in verse 8, he recognizes that he is subordinate to Nabal when he calls himself "your son".
5. In verses 23-31, what does Abigail remind David of? What similarities do you find between what Abigail tells David here and what David told his men when speaking about the situation with Saul?
6. Now, let's talk about you. In what ways are we inconsistent with who we trust God with, and who we feel like we need to take care of ourselves? Who are the people that are easier, or harder for you to accept that God placed as someone to serve? What do you learn in these passages that will help you be more consistent in submitting to anyone and everyone God places in your life?
7. What has this passage taught you? What is that one thing you don't want to forget?