

Sermon:THE CALL TO BE CHOSEN  
Series: THE CALLING  
8-23-2020

1 Samuel 16:1 / 16:6-13

*1Now the Lord said to Samuel, "You have mourned long enough for Saul. I have rejected him as king of Israel, so fill your flask with olive oil and go to Bethlehem. Find a man named Jesse who lives there, for I have selected one of his sons to be my king."*

*6When they arrived, Samuel took one look at Eliab and thought, "Surely this is the Lord's anointed!"*

*7But the Lord said to Samuel, "Don't judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."*

*8Then Jesse told his son Abinadab to step forward and walk in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, "This is not the one the Lord has chosen." 9Next Jesse summoned Shimea, but Samuel said, "Neither is this the one the Lord has chosen." 10In the same way all seven of Jesse's sons were presented to Samuel. But Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." 11Then Samuel asked, "Are these all the sons you have?"*

*"There is still the youngest," Jesse replied. "But he's out in the fields watching the sheep and goats."*

*"Send for him at once," Samuel said. "We will not sit down to eat until he arrives."*

*12So Jesse sent for him. He was dark and handsome, with beautiful eyes. And the Lord said, "This is the one; anoint him."*

*13So as David stood there among his brothers, Samuel took the flask of olive oil he had brought and anointed David with the oil. And the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David from that day on. Then Samuel returned to Ramah.*

The title of my message today is 'The Call to Be Chosen'

Let's take it back to middle school oh lovely, awkward middle school days - who in here was athletic throughout their school time? Yea well not all of us were blessed in that department (you have other gifts) - I'm sure we all know that dreaded moment at recess or PE where dodgeball is about to happen, two captains are chosen, the line starts to form, and the picking begins....Call Out Names - standing there hoping & praying you aren't the last one more names called, none of which are yours && just like you feared little Timmy is still picked before you, finally they say 'Okay Keshia you're on our team'

Maybe you haven't ever had to be chosen last for dodgeball, but I'm sure if you look over your life there have been moments where you have have felt invisible, worthless, of no value, overlooked, disappointing, an embarrassment - maybe someone else got

the promotion you had been working so hard for, or that guy you had been crushing on all year, started dating someone else,

I think it's safe to say that everyone in here at one point or multiple points has felt unseen.

I'm here to tell you today that God sees you. Look at your neighbor & tell them 'GOD SEES YOU'

Today we are looking at this pretty familiar story of David - now most of us when we hear the name David, we automatically think of David & Goliath, or the worshipper who wrote the book of Psalms or the David that danced in the streets undignified or David the King, David the man after God's own heart

& that is exactly why I want us to take it back to the very beginning, to this Remarkable and astonishing moment of history when David was just a shepherd boy, the youngest of 8 sons, he was really nothing special at all to the human eye, was chosen by God.

This is why when Samuel came to anoint one of Jesse's sons to be king - Jesse did not bring David out. There was no way he was the one to be king - all of his other sons were big and grown, not David he was just a boy who liked to play instruments and watch over sheep.

But God had a different view point - God had a call out for David to be chosen

There is a call of God coming from Heaven right now saying - do you know that You are purposed, you are seen, you are called, you have been CHOSEN for such a time as this by God himself

The last thing the enemy wants is for a generation rise up that know who they are in Christ. That know what they are capable of in Christ, and not just that they know but that they Live it! It's time to rise up and know who you are in Christ!

I'm going to give you 4 points to answering the call to be chosen

## **1. IT'S NOT ABOUT THE APPEARANCE, IT'S ABOUT THE SUBSTANCE**

*7But the Lord said to Samuel, "Don't judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."*

Eliab's appearance may have fit the brief perfectly, but David fit the brief internally.

A story someone told me once about a couple teenage boys at camp - there was one that was nicknamed 'Roids' because he was on steroids and he was huge and beyond

muscular - he was challenging other guys to an arm wrestling contest, one boy rose up the challenge now this kid was a farm boy, who threw hay bails basically on the daily - he didn't look near as muscular as 'Roids so it seemed to be no match at all and every basically put their money on the big dude - when they started to arm wrestle they were at it - the farm boy was putting up a good fight - as the farm boy continued to put pressure up against Roids - Roids' arm eventually snapped literally - leaving everyone well grossed out and completely shook

You see even though Roids had the appearance - he did not have the substance.

The farmer boy actually worked hard daily for his inward strength & Roids lazily perfected his outward 'strength'

You may feel like you are nothing, you don't look like so & so, you don't speak as eloquently as her, or aren't as courageous as him, but God doesn't look at the appearance - He looks at your heart.

That's where your focus needs to be.

David was no where near looking like a King, but he was faithful, loyal, and disciplined.

That's what God saw. That's what God wanted.

Don't compare yourself to anyone else, don't believe the lie that you are capable of nothing.

You are capable, you are able, you are good enough, you are strong enough, you are enough in the eyes of God.

God doesn't call the equipped, He equips the Called.

Stop working on your facade and start working on your heart. That's what matters.

## **2. TO BE HIDDEN IS TO BE SEEN**

*8Then Jesse told his son Abinadab to step forward and walk in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, "This is not the one the Lord has chosen." 9Next Jesse summoned Shimea, but Samuel said, "Neither is this the one the Lord has chosen." 10In the same way all seven of Jesse's sons were presented to Samuel. But Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." 11Then Samuel asked, "Are these all the sons you have?"*

*"There is still the youngest," Jesse replied. "But he's out in the fields watching the sheep and goats."*

*"Send for him at once," Samuel said. "We will not sit down to eat until he arrives."*

*12So Jesse sent for him. He was dark and handsome, with beautiful eyes.*

*And the Lord said, "This is the one; anoint him."*

Jesse presented all of his oldest sons because they seemed to be the most obvious choice - but one after the other after the other, God rejected.

Samuel was confused because he was looking at all the sons that Jesse had out in front of him, & none of them were the one, God told him no over and over but he knew that the future king was a son of Jesse but there seemed to be none left

He asked and Jesse said oh yeah I have one more in the fields

He was off, out of sight, out of mind. Samuel did not know he even existed, but God knew exactly where he was

Even though he was hidden he was seen by the eyes of the most important one.

*Colossians 3:3-4, For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. 4And when Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory.*

Often times we believe that to be chosen by God is to be seen by the world, but so often when God sees us it's because we are hidden in Him.

It's not about the position - it's about the positioning. The positioning your heart, your thoughts, your life to align with God

Hiding yourself in Him.

That verse tells us how to hide, we hide by dying to this life - putting to death our flesh!

Spending our time in prayer rather than desiring the platform, spending more time in His word than longing for your words to be heard.

To answer the call to be chosen, you have got to learn to hide yourself in order to be seen.

### **3. YOU ARE NOT ALONE**

When God chooses you, He stays with you

*13So as David stood there among his brothers, Samuel took the flask of olive oil he had brought and anointed David with the oil. And the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David from that day on.....*

Once David was anointed, once he was chosen it says the Spirit of the Lord came upon him and was with him from that day on.

You are not alone, whatever God chooses you to do, whatever he asks for you, you are not alone in doing it

Don't try to do it alone - Don't push God to the side and think that you got this, you can handle this.

Welcome the Spirit of God in your life to be with you. God knew what was to come in David's life, he knew the rejection, the adversity that he was going to face, David didn't know that, if he would've rejected the help of God he would not have walked out in his purpose.

The final point

#### **4. IT'S JUST AS MUCH ABOUT THE JOURNEY AS IT IS THE DESTINATION**

When God called David, he was a shepherd that was it.

God didn't just see where David was going. He saw where David was at.

So often, when we hear stories like this we always talk about where they ended up, but God didn't wait and call David to be King when he had already defeated Goliath or became King Saul's armor bearer - He chose him when he was just in the field as a shepherd.

God called Paul—when he was Saul—murdering Christians God saw an apostle and used him to write the epistles and most of the NT and ministered the gospel to many! The hands that killed so many were the hands that God used to write 2/3 of the New Testament

Moses—he had a stutter, but God used his voice to free His people out of Egypt

Esther—who was an orphan that lived with her cousin, but God saw a Queen

If we continue to read in 1 Samuel 16:14-18 it says,

*14 Now the Spirit of the Lord had left Saul, and the Lord sent a tormenting spirit that filled him with depression and fear.*

*15 Some of Saul's servants said to him, "A tormenting spirit from God is troubling you.*

*16 Let us find a good musician to play the harp whenever the tormenting spirit troubles you. He will play soothing music, and you will soon be well again."*

*17 "All right," Saul said. "Find me someone who plays well, and bring him here."*

*18 One of the servants said to Saul, "One of Jesse's sons from Bethlehem is a talented harp player. Not only that—he is a brave warrior, a man of war, and has good judgment. He is also a fine-looking young man, and the Lord is with him."*

You see being chosen isn't about the final destination, it's about the journey to getting there.

Because of our impatience as people, and I know we all deal with impatience, because of that we too often skip key moments to get to the final destination, once we get there we are no where near ready -

I believe I've shared this before but once my sister went to make some ribs in the crock pot because she had three kids and it was during the school year, the boys had football games after school and there was just so much to do so she read a title that said Easy and Fast Crock Pot Ribs - she read the recipe to make sure she had all the ingredients so that she could throw them in the crock pot that next morning before taking the kids to school. Come morning time, she gathers her ingredients in a rush, THEN she reads the instructions - she says out loud, WHAT??? I have to boil these for at least thirty minutes before putting them in the crock pot???

With no extra time to spare, She decides she doesn't have time for that, so she throws them in just how they are and cooks them - now they cooked all the way through, they looked good and they were pretty edible, but they were no where near where they could have been - because a key process was skipped.

I say all of this because so often, God calls us, He chooses us, we gather all the ingredients to make sure we Look Good and we look the part, but we skip the instructions because we don't want to have to take the time to go through every step that it takes to get there. So we end up playing the part, instead of being the part.

There are some of you in here that have these desires within you, you know what God has called you to do, do not forsake the process

David was chosen to be king, and not long after he was asked to play the harp for the King - not to be king but to serve the King.

David knowing that the throne Saul was in, was where God had called him to rule from, he sat and played the harp. - he was a mighty warrior, a man of valor all of these things that Saul's men told him, but yet he was chosen to play the harp, not to go fight in battle.

God may call you to be King, but He is asking you to play the harp first. He needs to see that you have the courage to kill the lion and the bear in private before you kill the Giant in public. He wants to make sure you can take care of the sheep before you can take care of a country.

So Embrace the process, don't skip the steps necessary to fulfill the call.

Value the journey instead of longing for the destination.

Like I said before God has called each and every one of us in here for a reason - for a purpose, you are chosen that is undeniable, that is clear throughout all of scripture - but it is up to you to answer the call!

To work on your heart, to be hidden in Christ, to let God have the reigns, and to embrace the journey.