



**January 5, 2025**

**The Shepherd King  
1 Samuel 16:1-13**

**Big Idea:** God cares more about what is inside than outside.

**Overview:** This week we launch a new series looking at the life of King David. David exerts an enormous influence in the Scriptural story. He is Israel's most famous King, credited for writing over 70 Psalms, and is a type (or precursor) to the person and work of Jesus Christ. Through his life we see moments of triumph and victory, and other moments of disastrous sin, calamity, cowardice and evil. In and through David's story we will see and connect with our own stories.

This week, we look at how David was chosen to be King over Israel. Saul has been rejected by God, and a new King must take his place. In an unlikely place, to an unlikely family, with an unlikely younger shepherd son, we see God's sovereignty in action. It is David, not the other older, stronger, and more fit sons, who God chooses.

Why does God choose David? Because He knows what is in his heart. God works differently, both then and now, and chooses to work through those who have surrendered hearts.

**Life Group Objectives:**

Remember why you exist as a group! Life Groups are to:

1. Reflect on this past week's message and passage or dig into the series you are going through as a group. When we all track together on the sermon series, we learn and grow together as a church.
2. We desire for you to have the Bible play a key role in your time together. Please have people open up Bibles, seeking clarity, asking questions, sharing insights, and allowing it to guide your time together.
3. Pray together and provide encouragement for other group members. How can you build one another up this week?

**Conversation starters:**

- Welcome to 2025! How has your year started?
- As you think about this year, what goals, hopes, and dreams do you have?
- What about spiritually?

**Learning from God's Word: Bible Study Discussion**

**Read Scripture:** 1 Samuel 16:1-13

**Questions for Discussion:**

1. **God's Decision vs. 1-5**
  - What do you know about the life of David? Any scriptures, stories, or Psalms come to mind when you think of him?
  - Multiple times in this text it says that *God has chosen*. God chooses David and sends Samuel to anoint him. What do we do with the difficult mystery of human free will and divine action?
  - What comfort can we take in God's sovereignty in the midst of a chaotic world and the uncertainty of our own lives?

## **2. God's Leader vs. 6-12**

- *God does not look at the things people look at* (vs. 7). All throughout the Scripture, God works through broken people (Abraham, Noah, David, Paul etc.). How has God used you amid, because of, and despite your story and sin?
- *God looks at the heart* (vs. 7). As God looks at your heart today, what does He find? How would you describe the state of your emotions, love, will, and reason before God today?

## **3. God's Anointing vs. 13**

- Samuel anoints David for service. What area of life do you need God's Spirit and power right now?
- What would God do in your life this year if you gave your first hour every day to Him? Often we settle for much less than what God has for us due to our own inability to surrender.
- What is keeping you from full trust and surrender to Jesus today?

### **Listening to God:**

- The Lord speaks, and we need to discern. What are some key themes that have emerged in your time together? What is the Holy Spirit impressing upon us?