



# David

A man after God's own heart



## Mission Arlington / Mission Metroplex Summer Curriculum

Religious Organization · Mission · Social Services

Let my words and my thoughts be pleasing to You, Lord,  
because You are my Mighty Rock and my Protector.  
Psalm 19:14

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## Introduction to heart look

In this age of social media that we live in, our relationships can become distorted . . . including our relationship with God. That is why this summer we parody a well known social media site to get to the heart of the matter.

When we make time to connect with others, are we also connecting with God? As we seek to be surrounded by a multitude of friends, do we remember that in God we have a friend who sticks closer than a brother? Maybe we have even become very accustomed to wearing a mask as we relate to others, not realizing that God sees the condition of our heart. Join us on a journey to the depths of your own heart as we seek to be pleasing to God with our words and our thoughts.

## David Is Going to Be King

1 Samuel 16:1-13, 1 Samuel 17:34-35 (1 Samuel 8, 13)

**Memory verse:** "GOD judges persons differently than humans do. Men and women look at the face; GOD looks into the heart." (1 Samuel 16:7b MSG)



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### Lesson 1

The first time we find David's name in the Bible it is mentioned with the wonderful birth of David's grandfather, Obed. We don't find David mentioned by name again until the end of our lesson today, but we begin to want to know who he is as we learn about the first king of Israel.

The Bible tells us that once the people of Israel were in the land that God had promised would be theirs, they began to adopt the customs and religions of the people around them. And little by little they turned

from the One true God to the false idols everyone around them worshipped. Eventually, the people of Israel decided to reject God's leadership over them altogether; they wanted a king. That may not sound like a bad thing to you and me, but by asking for a king, the people of Israel were rejecting God.

God warned them of the consequences and then allowed them to have what they wanted. After his first war, Saul, the first king, was rejected by God. The prophet Samuel told Saul, "you disobeyed, and so the Lord won't choose anyone else from your family to be king." (1 Samuel 13:14a CEV) "God is out looking for your replacement right now." (1 Samuel 13:14b MSG) That is when we begin to wonder who Saul's replacement might be! God even gives us a hint of what he will be like. He would be a man with a **heart** like God's, because you see, even today, "The eyes of the LORD search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose **hearts** are fully committed to Him." (2 Chronicles 16:9a NLT)

So it happened that some time after Saul's disobedience and rejection, maybe even thirty years after, God sent a man named Samuel to the town of Bethlehem. Samuel was God's prophet, or messenger. God wanted Samuel to go to Bethlehem, to Jesse's house, to anoint the next king, but Samuel was afraid because King Saul was still on the throne. Even in his fear, Samuel obeyed God.

All Samuel knew was that God had chosen one of Jesse's sons to be the next king. When Samuel met the seven oldest sons, he looked at the one named Eliab and thought, "He has to be the one God wants me to anoint as the next king." Even though Eliab looked like a king, God had something, and someone, else in mind. God told Samuel, "Looks aren't everything. Don't be impressed with his looks and stature. I've already eliminated him. GOD judges persons differently than humans do. Men and women look at the face; GOD looks into the **heart**." (1 Samuel 16:7 MSG)

Then, Samuel the prophet had each of the other sons walk in front of him and each time God said, "No, not him." Samuel knew that God had sent him to Jesse's house. So far, though, none of Jesse's sons was the one God had already chosen, "so he asked Jesse, 'Are these the only sons you have?'" (1 Samuel 16:10

NirV) There was one more son, the youngest, and he was out taking care of the sheep. Samuel refused to continue until the youngest son was there.

Now, you may be thinking that if God doesn't judge by looks and if He has already chosen the future king based on what was in his **heart**, that surely this youngest son of Jesse must be unpleasing to look at. He wasn't, though. David, Jesse's youngest son, was handsome and tanned from his time in the sun taking care of the sheep. You see, David wasn't disqualified because of his handsome appearance, but that had nothing to do with why God had chosen him. God saw something in David that no one else seemed to see. God saw into David's heart and could say, "I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my **heart**, who will do all my will." (Acts 13:22 ESV)

Then God told Samuel, "Get up and anoint him. He is the one." (1 Samuel 16:12 NirV) So Samuel used the olive oil that he brought and anointed young David in front of his brothers. "Immediately the spirit of the LORD took control of David and was with him from that day on." (1 Samuel 16:13 NirV)



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### Memory Verse Activities:

"GOD judges persons differently than humans do. Men and women look at the face; GOD looks into the heart." (1 Samuel 16:7b MSG)

- ® Make a paper heart chain. Print each word of the memory verse on a separate heart. Be sure to include the reference.
- ® Make paper plate masks. Print the memory verse on the mask and discuss what God sees even when we are pretending.



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### Games and Activities:

- ® Make crowns. Even though David hasn't begun to wear the crown talk about God's rejection of Saul and how He searched for David.
- ® Make a heart shaped magnifying glass. Cut out two heart shaped "frames" and sandwich cellophane or plastic wrap between the two. Attach a craft stick for the handle. Review the memory verse, Acts 13:22 and 2 Chronicles 16:9a.
- ® Make sheep crafts. Use toilet paper rolls, cotton balls, white socks, etc. You might even want to decorate cupcakes with marshmallows.



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### Songs:

- ® "How Majestic is Your Name"
- ® "Trust and Obey"
- ® "Heart of Worship"
- ® "Holy is the Lord (The Eyes of the Lord)"
- ® "As We Seek/Draw Me Close"
- ® "Change My Heart of God"
- ® "Holiness"



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### Food for Thought:

- ® What does it mean to "have a heart like God's"? "Seems to me, it means that you are a person whose life is in harmony with the Lord. What is important to Him is important to you." (Charles Swindoll, *David* p. 6)
- ® Read 2 Chronicles 16:9a. "What is God looking for? He is looking for men and women whose hearts are completely His—*completely*. That means there are no locked closets. Nothing's been swept under the rugs. That means that when you do wrong, you admit it and immediately come to terms with it. You're grieved over wrong. You're concerned about those things that displease Him. You long to please Him in your actions." (Charles Swindoll, *David* p. 6)
- ® Read Psalm 78:71-72. Notice the word *integrity* (or faithful and honest, innocent, pure, true). "God is not looking for magnificent specimens of humanity. He's looking for deeply spiritual, genuinely humble, honest-to-the-core servants who have integrity . . . Today, we live in a world that says, in many ways, 'If you just make a good impression, that's all that matters.' But you will never be a man or woman of God if that's your philosophy. Never. You cannot fake it with the Almighty." (Charles Swindoll, *David* p. 6)
- ® Read and discuss Psalm 8, 15, and 19 (written after Samuel anointed David). All were written by David.