



David, son of Jesse, King of the Twelve Tribes of Israel will forever be remembered. He tended sheep. He fought giants. He betrayed his family. He forgave his enemies. He battled his son. He loved God. He wavered in faith. and he would somehow be forever known as the man after God's own heart. Join us this fall at CPC as we study the Rise and Fall of King David.

WEEK 2: SUNDAY, SEPT 17

"How to Choose a King"

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Let's Warm Up:

- 1) This week we are talking about two kings, each very different from the other. If you had the chance, would you want to be a king? Why or why not?
- 2) How "people picky" are you? When it's time to pick someone to work with, play with, live with, etc. are you easy to please or hard to please? Is this a good or bad thing? Or maybe a bit of both?

Let's Get into the Word:

Take a minute and read these four passages, each about the first King of Israel, Saul:

1 Samuel 9:1-2,

1 Samuel 10:20-24

1 Samuel 15:17

1 Samuel 15:24

- 3) What are some of Saul's positive traits? What negative traits do we see here?
- 4) Have you ever worked with someone who was very talented, but lacked strong confidence or good character? What was it like?

Next let's look at the second King of Israel, David:

1 Samuel 16:1 & 6-13



- 5) Why do you think Jessi, David's father only presented David's older brothers to Samuel for inspection? Why do people tend to look at the outward appearance? What is it about outward things that draw our focus?
- 6) Why does God choose to look at the heart of a person? What do you think it means to look on the "heart" of a person?
- 7) Do you think only God can do this, or do people have some ability to "look on the heart" of a person? Do you think you are able to?

Here's the bottom line: Saul was outwardly strong but inwardly weak. David was outwardly weak but was actually inwardly strong. God saw this and chose David over Saul as the best king for Israel.

- 8) Which King does Israel most need? Why do inward characteristics matter more for leadership (or life)?

Let's apply this to our life:

- 9) In your own life, do you feel more strength in your inward or outward characteristics? What makes you feel strength or weakness when it comes to inward characteristics?
- 10) It is clear that one of Saul's great weaknesses was a need for the approval of other people. Why would this be a weakness? Does this mean that we shouldn't care at all what others think? What's the difference?
- 11) Have you ever had a "Jessie" in your life? How did you handle it?
- 12) What does it mean to you personally to know that God *does* see into your heart? Is this encouraging or off putting? How easy is it for you to believe that a godly heart is your greatest source of true strength?