

**Key Scriptures: 1 Samuel 16:1-13 & 2 Corinthians 4:16-18**

### **1 SAMUEL 16**

#### **Samuel Anoints David**

**16 The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king."**

**2 But Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me."**

**The Lord said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' 3 Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate."**

**4 Samuel did what the Lord said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, "Do you come in peace?"**

**5 Samuel replied, "Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.**

**6 When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed stands here before the Lord."**

**7 But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."**

**8 Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, "The Lord has not chosen this one either." 9 Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, "Nor has the Lord chosen this one." 10 Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, "The Lord has not chosen these." 11 So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?"**

**"There is still the youngest," Jesse answered. "He is tending the sheep."**

**Samuel said, "Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives."**

**12 So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features.**

**Then the Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; this is the one."**

**13 So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.**

### **2 CORINTHIANS 4**

**16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.**

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#### **QUESTIONS:**

1. Take some time to read over the passage in 1 Samuel. With a particular focus on verses 6-7, what things strike you?
2. How does the truth of Gods nature in these verses sit with you?
3. Do you resonate with the title of this message? Do you find yourself 'keeping up appearances' in life?
4. Why do you think as people, we are so drawn by 'outward appearance'? What kind of things shape you from the outside?

5. Paul talks twice in 2 Corinthians 4 about not losing heart. What happens when you lose heart and why is it so important that we don't lose it?
6. If our identity is build on the outside, we'll be building on shaky ground. How can we continue to build a solid foundation for our identity in God? What things can we do to shift our focus from the outside things?