

Day 1: READ 1 Samuel 15:22-23.

Saul was rejected as king of Israel. Do you ever feel rejected by God at times? CIRCLE each word rejected in this scripture. NOTICE the correlation to why he was rejected. JOURNAL your thoughts as to how this may or may not relate to your own journey. How do you view God from this angle?

Day 2: READ 1 Samuel 16:1-4a.

Who are the players in this scene? **THINK** about each person's perspective. Why would Samuel be mourning over Saul's rejection? What was Samuel's role in Saul's life? What was God's role in both of their lives?

LOOK at the question that Samuel asks of God. Do you sometimes question God? Samuel has the foresight to see how Saul will react to the change of power, but REFLECT on how God responds. Does he take away Samuel's fear? Does he give Samuel an answer that makes sense? Do you see through this scripture that we don't get to set God's agenda, nor do we get to decide whom He calls for what purpose? Does God always answer your questions with clarity? Do you expect Him to?

From this passage and looking back on the scripture from yesterday, LIST character traits in Samuel that made him a great prophet.

Day 3: READ 1 Samuel 16:4b-5.

Why would the elders be afraid of Samuel? Prophets, by their very nature, are called to speak God's truth into lives. **JOURNAL** a time when you may have dreaded God's truth in your life? What happened? Has God ever called you to do something you weren't very excited about doing? Like Samuel, God comes to us in peace and invites us in. **PRAY** for God's peace on your journey and **THANK** Him for His truth.

Day 4: READ 1 Samuel 16:6-10.

NOTICE how God didn't tell Samuel which son to anoint. Why didn't he specifically name David? Why the drawn out process of figuring it out? Has God also been secretive with your journey?

What were Samuel's expectations? Or Jesse's? Or each of the brothers'? How did God change their expectations in the process? **JOURNAL** a time when your expectations may not have lined up with God's plans.

In this passage, **FIND** the key to how God made His choice for king? How does this contrast to how people make choices? **DESCRIBE** this contrast as it applies to your day to day life.

Day 5: READ 1 Samuel 16:11-13.

David was chosen because God chose him.

RECITE this sentence out loud a few times going through each word. WRITE down the things you notice. Thinking over your study this past week, was David the expected king? Was he looking to be named as king? Did he do anything to deserve a kingdom? Did he have control over the choice at all?

ASK yourself...

- Why do I matter? Why am I here?
- Do I expect God to choose me? Do I deserve to be chosen? Do I have any control over it? How do I feel about that?
- Is my heart open to God? What would that look like? Is there anything holding me back?

PRAY Father, You are the author and giver of life. Open my ears to hear Your truth and Your call on my life. Help me to receive Your call with grace and acceptance. Help me let go of my expectations. Give me a heart of obedience as well as the strength and wisdom to follow You with a heart like David.