

NL STUDY GUIDE

DAVID: RISE FALL REDEMPTION

Part 1: Shepherd
Pastor Brian Jenkins
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1 SAMUEL 16:6-13 (NIV)

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.

Use this guide for personal and family devotions and weekly groups.

SCRIPTURE

1 SAMUEL 16:6-13 (NIV)

Watch this week's message online: nlchurch.com/watch.

OBSERVATION

In this first look into David's life, the prophet Samuel is on a quest to find the new king. Sent by the voice of the Lord, David's anointing is not unlike Saul's. In secret, calling forth a young man with no royal pedigree, we see God's value in demanding His choice, not the preference or whim of man's opinion. No matter his thoughts on David, God reminded Samuel that while man judges superficially, as in the case of Saul, God judges the heart.

HISTORICAL NOTE

Ancient Kings were often anointed with oil as a sign of their endorsement by the gods. It was a historical reminder that the person had been chosen divinely rather than by human wisdom. It symbolized the transferral of power from God to the individual and demonstrated that the person was claimed or marked by God.

- 1 Samuel's first act in finding a new king was to hear from God. He went to Jesse's home full of doubt and fear. How can fear affect how we hear from God?
- 2 God warned Samuel not to pay attention to the outward characteristics but rather trust in His will. What are outer values we often look for in leaders?
- 3 Where was David found? What does this say about his commitment and humility?

APPLICATION

When you apply something, you put it into practice. It's one thing to read the Bible; it's another thing to live it out. A practical application of what you just observed from today's study can help you discover just how much impact the Bible can have on every situation you may face!

In this section, discuss together ways you can apply what you've learned from the teaching and the Bible study. Then, think about some practical ways you can live out what you've learned.

- 1 Both Samuel and Jesse miss out on who God wants to pick to be king. This is because they focus on outward appearances and assumptions. What can happen when we make this mistake?
- 2 David is famously found in the fields, tending his sheep. What does this say to you? Why is it important to take care of the little details of life?
- 3 The Bible says that from that day forward, the Spirit of God never left David. What can we do to stay aware of God's presence in our lives?

PRAYER

Use the space below to write out your prayer in response to today's message.
