

10-15-23 Facilitator God Gives Grace to the Humble, 1 Samuel 16:1-13, Tim Rice

1. **Launchers: How has an emphasis on appearances shaped how you live?**

2. **Worship:** 1 Samuel 2:6 The LORD kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up. 7 The LORD makes poor and makes rich; he brings low, and he exalts. 8 He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor. For the pillars of the earth are the LORD's, and on them he has set the world.

3. **Sermon Reflection: God Gives Grace to the Humble, 1 Samuel 16:1-13**

AN IMAGE THAT MATTERS

- How is the LORD gracious to call people to Himself, and into His Kingdom's work?
 - By His Word the LORD offers, "Join Me in what I'm doing."

IN LOVE WITH APPEARANCES

- What do our fallen hearts naturally seek?
 - *Autonomous*, we want to define ourselves by things of this world vs. *submitting ourselves to be defined by God*
- How have you seen destruction from someone's obsession with appearance or power? (e.g. selfie disasters, or influencer meltdowns)
- How or when did God give you what you wanted to discover to you that who you really wanted all along was HIM?*
 - By giving us over to our will (*in rejecting His*) He helps us discover *our own corruption* and folly.

SUBSTANCE OVER IMAGE

- How is God's work through weakness a surprising mystery?
 - His ways are not our ways and Jesus loves humility, and His fight with evil would require it
- How can Jesus' work through humility help you *re-think your view of what matters?*
 - *And what if this is the only place where real, eternal glory can be had?*
- How prepared are you for *God's call into humility and hardship?* How would this affect who you would consider as a mate or friend?

4. **Kingdom Centered Prayer: YOU CAN PRAY WITH US...**

1. Worship the LORD as God, all-wise! Praise and adore Him, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, that as He knows all things and that He is holy in all His ways, especially where He has worked through suffering.
2. How have you lived more affected by appearances in this world than you have shaped by God and His Word? Confess your sin – *your distortion of God's reality* – to Jesus, asking Him to forgive you and heal you.
3. Give thanks to Jesus for how He does not look on outward appearances but on the heart! Thank Him that knowing what was in our heart He humbled Himself even to death in order to save us.
4. Pray for any ministry you are aware of that pursues the work of serving those who are humiliated and broken, eschewing what this world loves. Pray for them, asking the Lord to equip and empower them for His work.
5. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you grow in being defined by His heart, by His Word, rather than being defined by the things of this world. *Pray for growth in pure faithfulness even when this world rejects Him and His character!*

5. **Mission: Rate your Spiritual Health – Internal Investment / External Investment**

1 Samuel 16:1 Summary of God's command to Samuel

- Internal Investment – Fill (Spiritual Disciplines) _____
 - External Investment – Go, Send, God will Provide (Mission) _____
- Rate yourself on a scale of 1-10. 1 weak, 10 strong.
What is one thing you could do this week to reinvest in yourself or your mission?
How can we pray for you?