

# Truly and Fully Known by God (3/5/23)

**Main Verses:** 1 Samuel 16:1-7

**Key Verse:** 1 Samuel 16:7

**'Takeaway':** While the world is concerned too much with how we look on the outside, God is first concerned with who we are on the inside.

**Getting Started:** Have you ever heard the proverb "Don't judge a book by its cover"? What does that mean?

**READ:** 1 Samuel 16:1-7 (or have older kids help read).

Some **QUESTIONS** to consider:

Toddler/PreK:

- What did the LORD say to Samuel?
- How does Samuel respond?
- What does "heart" mean here?
- Why is it important to not make decisions based on how someone looks?

Elementary:

- Why is Samuel afraid to anoint the new king?
- What did Samuel assume when he saw Eliab?
- How does God respond?
- What does "heart" mean here?

Here are some **IMPORTANT IDEAS** we discover in these verses :

Toddler/PreK:

- God had rejected Saul because Saul did not obey God.
- Our "hearts" – our inward moral & spiritual life, including our emotions, will, & reason – is what God looks at and cares about.
- God knows everything about us. He knows us better than anyone else could ever know us.
- God chose David because he was "a man after his (God's) own heart" (13:14).
- Thru Jesus, the son of David & the perfect king, we can receive a new heart - one that God wants to form after his own heart.

Elementary:

- Samuel was thinking like the Israelites who wanted a big, strong king to fight their battles for them (8:5, 19-20; 10:24).
- But outward looks cannot be used to tell if a person will faithfully obey the LORD (like Saul, who looked big & strong but did not obey God).
- People's actions flow from the heart of a person. "Heart" in the Bible refers to a person's inward moral & spiritual life, including the emotions, will, & reason.
- God knows everything about us – He sees into the deepest parts of our hearts & knows us better than any other person could ever know us.
- God chose David because he was "a man after his own heart" (13:14).
- Thru Jesus, the son of David & the perfect king, we can receive a new heart - one that God wants to form after his own heart.

An **ENCOURAGEMENT** in light of God's word:

(Toddler/PreK) Talk to God. Thank him for making a way for us to have a new heart that wants to love & please him & others. Thank God that, thru faith in Jesus, we too can have new hearts that are being shaped by God's Spirit. Ask him to help you to listen to him & his Word - ask him to help you have a heart focused on him.

(Elementary) Talk to God. Thank him for making a way for us to have a new heart thru faith in Jesus. Talk to God now about the condition of your heart – are you concerned about the things that God is concerned about? Is your heart & life focused on him? Have you asked God to give you a new heart? **Admit** you are guilty of living a me-centered life instead of a God-centered one. **Believe** that Jesus is your only hope for forgiveness, freedom, & forever with God. With your whole heart & being, **commit** yourself to following Jesus' loving leadership. If you pray this, or have questions about what it means, talk to a trusted adult in your life about it.

