



# God Chooses David to Replace Saul

1 Samuel 16:1-13



**Bible Point:** Our hearts are what matter to God.



**Key Verse:** "The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7b).

Use the following activities to further the application of this week's lesson in the lives of your family members.

## Discussion Starters

### Preschoolers

- What makes you special to God?
- What do you think is important to God?

### Elementary Students

- Who are your heroes? What makes them heroes to you?
- What makes someone a hero in God's eyes?

### Youth

- What do your peers focus on more: outward appearance or inward character? Explain.
- What are ways you can focus more on inner qualities instead of appearance? What makes it hard to focus on those qualities in today's society?

## Talk Topics

- Choose a positive character quality, and challenge your family to come up with examples of what a person with that quality would and would not be like. Qualities might include honesty, caring, courage, hope, loyalty, responsibility, justice, and faith.
- Present an ethical dilemma to your family, such as a person having to choose between being honest or being loyal to a friend. Talk about how you would decide what to do. Talk about the importance of character qualities, and how to make difficult choices based on those qualities.
- Take turns sharing the positive character qualities you see in each other. Perhaps you could have family members write these positive qualities on slips of paper. Then hide the papers where the person will be sure to find them later.
- Talk about what it means to have a heart that is pleasing to God. Use biblical characters, such as David, Abraham, Mary (the mother of Jesus), and Paul, as examples of people whose hearts were focused on pleasing God.

## Through the Week

Use the following passages to explore additional biblical insights about the importance of developing a heart and character that are pleasing to God.

Monday—Deuteronomy 6:4-6

Tuesday—Deuteronomy 15:10

Wednesday—1 Chronicles 28:9

Thursday—Psalm 51

Friday—Matthew 5:8

Saturday—John 7:24

## Daily Challenge®

- Find other verses in the Bible that will help you develop a proper heart attitude toward God, and think about how you can apply those verses directly in your life.
- In what ways do you try to impress others instead of God? Write them down as you think of them. Then look over your list and pray daily that God will change your heart about those things.
- Which other people need to know that God cares about what's in their hearts? Spend some time with someone this week, and encourage that person to see himself or herself the way God sees him or her.
- Talk about things you could do as a family that would allow you to demonstrate inner character qualities. For example, think of an activity that you could do as a family that would demonstrate love toward someone else. Plan and do this activity together. Talk about your experience afterward.