



DAILY DEVOTIONS

HOW HAVE YOUR CHOICES BACKFIRED IN THE PAST?



What does this passage say?



What did this passage mean to its original audience?



What does this passage tell us about God?



What does this passage tell us about man?



What does this passage demand of me?



How does this passage change the way I relate to people?



How does this passage prompt me to pray?

DAVID

SAMUEL 16:1

God's choice is always better than ours. Israel wanted a king to rule them like the surrounding nations. God gave them what they wanted and allowed them to see the foolishness of rejecting God's wisdom. But notice on this occasion how the Lord says, "I have selected for myself a king" (v. 1). God knows what you need even better than you do. You can trust His choice and wisdom. Even if you don't understand or wish things were different, trust God and move forward with His plans, which are greater than your own.

HOW HAVE YOUR CHOICES BACKFIRED IN THE PAST?

WHY DO WE STRUGGLE TO TRUST GOD'S WISDOM RATHER THAN OUR OWN?

HOW CAN YOU APPLY GOD'S WISDOM TO YOUR PRESENT SITUATIONS?

DAY 03

1 SAMUEL 16:2-5

DO YOU WORRY ABOUT WHAT OTHERS WILL THINK IF YOU OBEY JESUS? WHY?

WHAT THINGS GIVE YOU THE MOST HESITATION ABOUT OBEYING GOD?

HOW CAN YOU OBEY GOD DESPITE ANY FEARS OR WORRIES?

Samuel hears what Saul might do if he
knew about his plans to crown another
king. He secretly told Saul that God
was taking his kingdom away from
Saul. Samuel was sad, but
he would do as God said. He said, "Don't
let anyone show someone else who
will keep you from obeying the Lord.
Trust Jesus and stop worrying about
what others will think or do. You can
trust that God is directing your steps
and will be with you wherever you go."

DAY 03

1 SAMUEL 16:6-7

Appearances can be deceiving. You can deceive others with the image you create or project and you can also misread someone based on some external characteristic or stereotype. But God cannot be deceived. He sees the truth about us all. Each day, we should seek to live in truth, to bridge the disconnect between our character and our image. Be honest with God and yourself and resist the temptation to jump to conclusions about others. May God give you eyes to see what He sees about yourself and others this week.

HOW HAVE YOU MISJUDGED SOMEONE ELSE'S CHARACTER?

HOW HAS YOUR CHARACTER BEEN MISJUDGED?

IN WHAT AREA MIGHT YOU NEED TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN YOUR CHARACTER AND IMAGE?

SAMUEL 16:8-13

WHAT KEEPS YOU FROM BELIEVING
GOD CAN USE YOU?

WHAT DO YOU THINK IS NEEDED TO
BE ABLE TO BE USED BY GOD?

HOW CAN YOU GROW IN INTEGRITY?

God delights in using the small, young, and seemingly insignificant. He doesn't need the biggest, smartest, or most influential. He is looking for young people whose hearts are pure and whose character is strong. You can't control your height, athleticism, natural intellect, etc. But you can be a person of integrity. When no one is watching but God, be the person He wants you to be. He sees, and in time, He will reward your faithfulness.

DAY 05

SAMUEL 16:14-23

Praise is a matter of spiritual warfare. David, filled with the Spirit, played for Saul and the evil spirit left him. The enemy cannot stand the worship of Christ. When you lift up the name of Jesus, you are pushing back the darkness in your life. It is amazing what worship the Lord on a difficult day can do to our minds. Personal worship is a spiritual discipline. Worship Jesus as a matter of spiritual warfare this week.

WHAT DO YOU GO TO AS A REFUGE IN
DARK SEASONS?

HOW HAS WORSHIP AFFECTED YOUR
MENTALITY?

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO WORSHIP
CHRIST MORE IN PRIVATE?