



## IN SEARCH OF THE KING

### Community Group Questions

1 Samuel 16  
Not as Man Sees

#### FOCUS

God will have His own king, and He will have His own king in His own way. The goal is that we would 'see' like God 'sees'.

#### OPENING QUESTION

It is sometimes said that “image is everything”. In what way do you see that idea at work in the world? Try to come up with some specific examples.

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#### READ

1 Samuel 16

#### SOME QUESTIONS FOR STUDY AND REFLECTION

Over what is Saul grieving (see 15:34-35)? Is he wrong to grieve? Why or why not?

Think back to the original appointment of Saul. What makes God's statement – “I have provided for myself a king” – so striking and significant?

How are Samuel's ideas about what makes a good king different from God's?

What makes David such a surprising choice to be king?

How do verses 13-14 mark a crucial change in both David's and Saul's lives?

Why might what unfolds in verses 14-23 be considered ironic?

Explore the significance of David, Jesse, and Bethlehem in the history of God's plan of salvation by looking up some of the following passages. Consider how they help you to better understand what's been unfolding in the book of 1 Samuel. Ruth 4:17-22; Micah 5:2-4; Isaiah 11:1-10; Jeremiah 23:1-6; Matthew 1:1; Romans 1:1-6.



## CLOSING REFLECTION AND APPLICATION

In what ways can appearances be deceiving?

What would it mean for us to 'look' on the heart instead of looking on the external appearance?

- What would it mean for the friends and relationships you choose?
- What would it mean for how you parent your children?
- What would it mean for religion and worship?
- What would it mean for your choice of a church?
- What would it mean for your understanding of church leadership?
- What would it mean for your own life?

Can you think of other examples in the Bible in which God seems to work on the inverse, thereby turning the logic of the world on its head?

In what way is Jesus and the cross unexpected and surprising (see 1 Corinthians 1:18-31)?

If what we have here in this chapter is God's choice for a king in contrast to the people's choice, what do you think God is trying to tell us about the kind of king we do and do not need?

How does the image of Jesus as your Shepherd-King encourage you in your walk with Him?