Scripture Reference: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Scripture verse: “…The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”

Memory verse: “The Lord looks at the heart.”

Main truth: God does not look at outwardly things, but at the heart

Story:

Last week we learned about how God called Samuel. Samuel became a mighty prophet for God’s people, the Israelites. As a prophet, Samuel told the Israelites what God had to say to them. He spoke God’s words to the people. Today, we have the Bible, this is how God speaks to us now.

Samuel was upset about the king of Israel. The king’s name was Saul, and Saul had turned away from God. God said to Samuel “I have rejected Saul as king of Israel. Now, go on your way. I am sending you to anoint someone else to be the king of Israel”.

Samuel was scared of King Saul, but he trusted God and obeyed Him even though he was scared. God sent Samuel to Bethlehem to see a man named Jesse. God said “I have chosen one of Jesse’s sons to be king, go and anoint him.” Jesse had 11 sons. “I wonder which one will be king?” thought Samuel. Jesse proudly lined up his grown sons before Samuel. When Samuel saw one of Jesse’s sons named Eliab he thought “Surely this man is the one God has chosen to be king” because he was tall and good-looking, he looked just like a king. However God said “Do not consider what he looks like or how tall he is, I have rejected this one. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” (Read this part from the Bible)

Jesse sent all of his grown sons to pass in front of Samuel, but God let Samuel know with each one that he was not the son that was going to be king. Hm! Where was the son that was going to be king? Samuel asked Jesse “Are these all of your sons?” Jesse said “There is still the youngest, he is tending the sheep.” Jesse didn’t even consider that David would become king, he was the youngest and least important in their family! Even though David didn’t seem worthy to men, God knew David’s heart and chose him.

Samuel said “We will not sit down until David gets here!” So they sent for David and when David came Samuel said, “This is the one!” Samuel had the ceremony making David king right there in front of his older brothers. The Bible says that from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David and that David was a man after the Lord’s own heart.

God chose David because God sees the heart. God knew that David had a heart after His own heart. God does not ever show favoritism because of where a person is from, how they look, how much money they have, or how old or important they are. God treats all people fairly. Let’s pray that we have a heart like God’s just like David did.

Questions:

Who was the prophet in the story? Samuel

What did prophets do? Tell people God’s words

How do we have God’s words today? In the Bible

Why was Samuel upset? Because King Saul turned away from God

Where did God send Samuel to find the new king of Israel? Bethlehem

What was David’s father’s name? Jesse

Why did Samuel think Eliab was going to be the king? He was good-looking, tall, and looked like a king

Who did God choose to be king of Israel? David

Was David big and important or was he the youngest and least important in his family? Youngest and least important

What does God look at to judge people? Their hearts

Who treats all people fairly? God

Infant story:

Saul the king of Israel had turned away from God.

God sent Samuel to anoint a new king for His people Israel

God chose David to be king because David had a heart like His

God does not look at the outward things that people look at, God looks at the heart