

## **Talents We Admire and Faults We Wish To Ignore**

David was born the youngest of eight sons. There is much controversy regarding his birth. Some scholars say David had a different mother than the rest of his brothers. They base their argument on [Psalms 51:5](#). He grew up under the dysfunctional leadership of King Saul. Saul suffered from mental and emotional sickness. Saul's decline provided the backdrop of David's rise to celebrity. David's destiny was tied to the fortunes and failures of Israel's first king. You inherit the world left to you by your foreparents. What they did well blesses you. Their failures and unresolved fears add additional burdens to your life. You are also leaving a legacy for those who follow you. Are you living in a way that will fully release David to embrace his destiny in God or are you making it more difficult for the next generation? Are you someone worthy of emulation? If the youth duplicated your life and living pattern, would they experience success and surpass your accomplishments or be hobbled by pain, worry and despair?

David's call to greatness came gradually. He did not have the immediate burning bush episode like Moses. His destiny only became clear as he continued to obey God as part of his journey in life. Many years passed from the time he was anointed King to the time he was placed on the throne. Prophetic fulfillment takes time. We want to receive everything God has for us overnight by express mail. We think in days when often God is thinking in decades. God loves you enough to do you right.

[1 Samuel 16:1-13](#) God had to force an end to Samuel's grief. We tend to hold on to people who have long left us and rejected right living. It is clear from [verse 2](#) that Saul would have killed Samuel. Samuel is feeling sorry for someone who would murder him. Samuel's feelings and emotions were misplaced. They were out of order. If anything, grieve over the fact that they are putting your life at risk. Recently, a lady was on the Dr. Phil show who was still in love with a man who shot her in the head. Her feelings were out of place. She loved the man who attempted to murder her more than she loved herself. Samuel was starting to allow his feelings to get stuck in the wrong direction. God stopped him.

Samuel called a feast as a cover for his secret mission. God is the only one out in the open. Samuel tried to anoint the tall good-looking first-born son. God instructs Samuel not to rely on outer appearances. The heart is more important to God. What does this mean to you? Have you ever been fooled by someone who looks honest, righteous and loving? Have you ever opened your life up to extensive pain because you did not take the time to know a person's heart before accepting their body? A good example of not looking at outward appearances could be found in the previous experience of King Saul. He was the tallest man available but proved to be a miserable disappointment. David was the last to be selected by his own father but first on God's list.

Every generation and organization comes up with their list of important qualities. You have to be slick and market savvy, with stunning good looks to be selected by some. For God, the most important qualities are heart, integrity, and spiritual connection. [1 Samuel 16:10, 11](#)

Samuel waited for the Lord to guide him to the right selection. Samuel had to be open to receive revelation as well as take direction throughout the entire process. It is the same with your life. As God is building you into the man or woman you have been chosen to

be, He is more interested in your obedience than your talents. We do not know what David thought of Samuel's actions.

When you receive a progressive call, as did David, you probably respond in much the same way. David received the anointing (like winning the spiritual lottery) and went back to work. His first assignment was to complete his assignment. He began to act like a leader in the areas of responsibility. He was to prove the truth of his calling in the area of his present living. This means you do not have to quit your job in order to serve God. In some instances, God may lead you to quit your job. However, for most of us, our first assignment after receiving the anointing for leadership will be to go back to serve where we were previously employed. You don't need a new family, career, location or circumstances. You need to begin to allow the anointing of God to flow through you no matter your position, status, class, ethnic group or health. God called you because He has something He wants you to do.

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