



Near and Now

When my calling “fits” both me and the needs of others- David

By Deacon Amanda Randall

Warm-up Question

When have you helped been chosen to do something you didn't feel prepared for?

Give examples

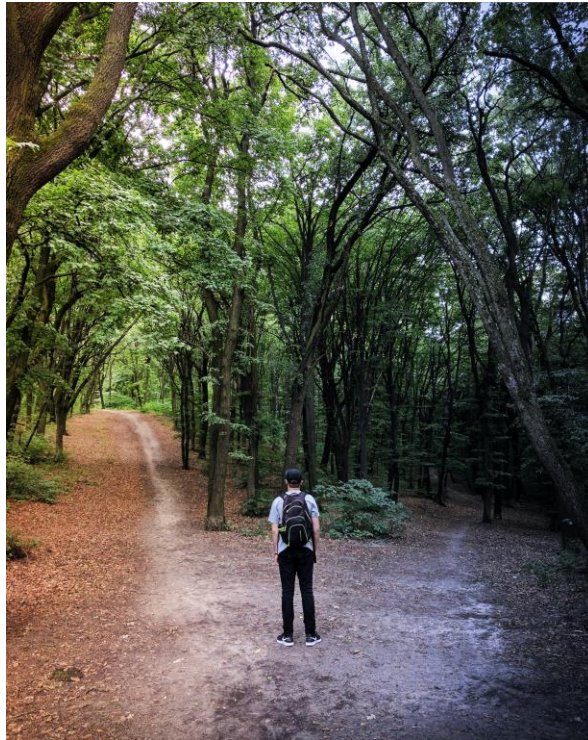


Photo by Vladislav Babienko on [Unsplash](#)

Discussion Questions

1. What do you see in this image?
2. What do you feel looking at this image?
3. What stories from your own life does this image bring to mind?
4. What stories of the world does this image bring to mind?

This is the one

Read [1 Samuel 16:1-13](#).

Bible Story Reflection

As Samuel is talking with God, God calls him out of his grief and into action. Saul has been rejected as the king of Israel, for there is someone greater to come. God sends Samuel to Jesse to find the future king. The king would not be someone that Samuel expected. Samuel had some fear about the repercussions of this call. God guides Samuel and reminds him to trust.

God chose David, the youngest, the one who was meant to be caring for the sheep. David is the unlikely choice. In the eyes of the society around him, he was not meant for greatness. He was never meant to be a king. Yet, God chose him. God saw David for his heart, for his whole person, not who society deemed him to be. It's interesting to wonder how David would have reacted. Would it be as big of a shock to him as everyone else?

Often, we may see ourselves as David. We may be the one behind the scenes tending to what needs to be done. We may be the one that is heard more than seen. We may be the one who shows up, but doesn't expect others to do the same. David's calling is far beyond what he may have ever imagined for himself. He would come to rule over Israel with love and compassion. He would defeat Goliath. His call would save him and God's people.

This text is a poignant reminder that no matter how the world sees us, God has chosen us. God has chosen us to be God's people. God does not call the equipped; God equips the called. Our calling has an impact far beyond ourselves. Look for the moments where God shows up as a reminder that our calling is greater than us.

Discussion Questions

1. Where do you see David in your own story?
2. Talk about a time that someone saw a gift in you that you didn't see in yourself?
3. How do you feel when someone points out a gift in you? Why?
4. How do you feel when you point out a gift in someone else? Why?
5. How do you think David would tell his own story?
6. What does it look like to rise up to a challenge?
7. How do you think Jesse felt when David was chosen?
8. Where can you show up to share your calling with others?

Activity Suggestions

Cut out a heart and decorate with the words “God looks at the Heart”

Think of a movie/story where the unlikely is chosen as the hero. Watch or read the story and spend some time drawing the parallels to David.

Reach out to a friend and affirm the gifts that they may not see in themselves. Share a story of how you see that and pray for them.

Prayer Concerns

Those struggling to see that they are called, those encountering societal pressures, and those who uplift the gifts in those around them.

Closing Prayer

You have claimed and named me as your own, O God. Summon out what I shall be. In the name of +Jesus, Amen.

