**The Young Shepherd of Bethlehem**

1 Samuel 16:1-23

**1 Samuel 16:1 (ESV)**The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul, since I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for Myself a king among his sons.”

**1 Samuel 16:2 (ESV)**And Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’

**1 Samuel 16:3 (ESV)**And invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do. And you shall anoint for Me him whom I declare to you.”

**1 Samuel 16:4 (ESV)**Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, “Do you come peaceably?”

**1 Samuel 16:5 (ESV)**And he said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Consecrate yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

**1 Samuel 16:6 (ESV)**When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is before Him.”

**1 Samuel 16:7 (ESV)**But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.”

**1 Samuel 16:8 (ESV)**Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.”

**1 Samuel 16:9 (ESV)**Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.”

**1 Samuel 16:10 (ESV)**And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen these.”

**1 Samuel 16:11 (ESV)**Then Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.”

**1 Samuel 16:12 (ESV)**And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the Lord said, “Arise, anoint him, for this is he.”

**1 Samuel 16:13 (ESV)**Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

***When your past disappoints you, God provides graciously.***

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**Genesis 49:10 (ESV)**The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.

**Philippians 3:13-14 (ESV)**But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

***When your vision fails you, God sees perfectly.***

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***When your ability limits you, God empowers abundantly.***

**1 Samuel 16:14 (ESV)**Now the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and a harmful spirit from the Lord tormented him.

**1 Samuel 16:17 (ESV)**So Saul said to his servants, “Provide for me a man who can play well and bring him to me.”

**1 Samuel 16:18 (ESV)**One of the young men answered, “Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, who is skillful in playing, a man of valor, a man of war, prudent in speech, and a man of good presence, and the Lord is with him.”

**1 Samuel 16:19 (ESV)**Therefore Saul sent messengers to Jesse and said, “Send me David your son, who is with the sheep.”

**Revelation 22:16 (ESV)**

“I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the Root and the Descendant of David, the Bright Morning star.”