Nov 22, 2026

Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

The Oaks Baptist Church

Grand Prairie, Texas

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:
In the first chapter of Hebrews, the writer tells us how God the Father set the Son apart by anointing Him "with the oil of joy" (1:9). This kind of joy is one of celebration

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:
Dear Jesus, we beg You for You. May Your heart be what others see in us today. May we radiate Your joy in all we say and do

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:
You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions."
(Heb 1:9 NKJV)

(from "Our Daily Bread", May 20, 2020)

Series: Generations: From Canaan to Jerusalem

UNIT 3: From Judges to Kings

NEXT WEEK
The City of David
(2 Sam 5:1-12)

David is Anointed King
1 Samuel 16:4-13

Lesson Background and Introduction

Today's lesson takes us back to approximately 1025 BC. The exodus from Egypt (1447 BC) was more than four hundred years in the past. The dismal period of the judges (approximately 1380-1050 BC) came to an end and gave way to something different but not necessarily better: an era of a united monarchy for Israel, which lasted approximately 120 years (1050-931 BC). The Israelites' desire for a human king meant the rejection of God as king (1 Samuel 8:7). It was a time of transition, some might say Israel reached a "tipping point." Samuel had served honorably as judge and prophet for many years (7:15-17). But his two sons, the "heirs apparent," were dishonorable. The elders of Israel had grown weary of the sons' misdeeds. The elders' solution was to ask for a king (8:1-5, 19-20). Neither the wise and elderly Samuel nor their all-knowing God thought a monarchy was a good idea. But Samuel gave the people what they wanted when God directed him to do so (8:21-22). Saul became the first king of Israel. He was a member of the tribe of Benjamin (1 Samuel 9-10). Saul's reign started well enough, but he succumbed to disobedience after a short time (13:11-14). Following a second episode of failing to follow God's instructions (15:1-21), God rejected him as king. Establishing a replacement for Saul took about fifteen years to finalize. Today's lesson text takes us to the beginning of that process. The Lord spoke to Samuel and told him it was time to stop mourning over Saul's disobedience. God pushed Samuel to quickly complete the task of anointing a new king (16:1).

God chose David based on his heart (1 Samuel 13:14; quoted in Acts 13:22). God had both divine insight regarding David's character and divine foresight concerning his faithfulness. Despite human expectations of fitness, God selected the youngest child from an insignificant family as Israel's next king. David is an example of a long-standing tradition in which God chooses to work through unlikely people and circumstances. The Lord loves to select people that the world does not deem valid or worthy. Therefore, we may be encouraged that God can use us too. However, our lesson text should also temper our confidence in human ability or beauty. While God can use these things, they do not qualify us for God's work. Despite what humans see and perceive, the Lord looks not at outward appearances but at the heart (1 Samuel 16:7). Time and again, we see people in the Bible embracing the first part of this axiom and neglecting the second part. We see it yet today. The perceived importance of appearance and reputation can blind us to **God's opinion of what truly matters**. Honesty requires us to admit that too often, we posture, polish, and perform, hoping to gain the attention of those in power. We grapple for authority and social influence. It is easy to look to superficial cultural criteria to evaluate our effectiveness, productivity, or ability. We do not have a window into other people's hearts, but we do have a window into our own. How is your heart? In what ways are you valuing inner wisdom, peace, and integrity over outward appearance?

(*Adapted from the NIV Standard Lesson Commentary*)

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

Selection of a Leader (1 Sam 16:4-11)

Don't use worldly views (4-6)

Because using worldly views do not consider the new creation in a person (2 Cor 5:16-17)
Because in Jesus there are no distinctions (Col 3:11)
Because we shouldn't' show favoritism (James 2:1)
Because it could be judging with evil thoughts (James 2:2-4)
Because Jesus does not judge by human standards (John 8:15-16)
Because God accepts all men who fear Him and do right (Acts 10:34-35)
Because it puts stumbling blocks in other's way (Rom 14:13)
Because worldly views don't result in right judgments (John 7:24)
Because worldly views depend on surface things (2 Cor 10:7)

Seek God's view, which is an inward review (7)

Because God's thoughts and ways are superior to man's (Isa 55:8-9)
Because God knows the heart (Luke 16:15)
Because God understands the motive behind the thoughts and actions (1 Chron 28:9)
Because God searches the heart and examines the mind (Jer 17:10)
Because nothing is hidden from God (Heb 4:13)

Realize that there may be many rejections (8-10)

Rejections because of not doing what is right (Gen 4:3-7)
Rejections because of not doing the will of God (Matt 7:21-23)
Rejections because the world hates righteousness (John 15:18-19)
Rejections because Jesus was rejected (1 Peter 2:6-8)
Rejections, but through perseverance, getting what is needed (Luke 11:5-8)

Wait on God and His timing (11)

Wait on God with hope (Ps 130:5-6)
Wait on God with boldness (Ps 27:14)
Wait on God patiently (Ps 37:7)
Wait on God for deliverance (Prov 20:22)
God does things when the time is fully right (Gal 4:4)
God's timing is totally difference than man's (2 Peter 3:8)
Man should consider God's time (Ps 90:12)

A Faithful Leader Must be Anointed by God (1 Sam 16:12-13)

God's selected ones are always anointed (12)

Anointed to strengthen and sustain (Ps 89:20-21)
Anointed to seal and to ensure the Holy Spirit is in the heart (2 Cor 1:21-22)
Anointed to know the truth (1 John 2:20)
Anointed to understand the truth (1 John 2:27)
Anointed to identify and confirm protection (1 Sam 26:9)

The Holy Spirit works in those who are anointed (13)

The Holy Spirit works in the anointed to help them speak the words of God (John 3:34)
The Holy Spirit works in the anointed to empower (Acts 1:8)
The Holy Spirit works in the anointed to testify about being God's child (Rom 8:15-16)
The Holy Spirit works in the anointed to administer gifts (1 Cor 12:11)
The Holy Spirit works in the anointed for the common good (1 Cor 12:7)
The Holy Spirit works in the anointed to renew and cleanse (Titus 3:5)