

Scripture:

January 21, 2024 - David – Epiphany of Heart

David – from shepherd boy to one of the greatest kings in the Bible, he did all kinds of amazing and great things. Writer of psalms, a poet, harpist, and hymnist. He also broke about 8 of the commandments all at once, danced naked in the streets, and had family troubles. Join us this weekend as we look at David – in all his glory and not-so-much glory to learn about the epiphany of heart and what God really wants!

1 Samuel 13:7b-14 NLT Meanwhile, Saul stayed at Gilgal, and his men were trembling with fear. ⁸ Saul waited there seven days for Samuel, as Samuel had instructed him earlier, but Samuel still didn't come. Saul realized that his troops were rapidly slipping away. ⁹ So he demanded, "Bring me the burnt offering and the peace offerings!" And Saul sacrificed the burnt offering himself. ¹⁰ Just as Saul was finishing with the burnt offering, Samuel arrived. Saul went out to meet and welcome him, ¹¹ but Samuel said, "What is this you have done?" Saul replied, "I saw my men scattering from me, and you didn't arrive when you said you would, and the Philistines are at Micmash ready for battle. ¹² So I said, 'The Philistines are ready to march against us at Gilgal, and I haven't even asked for the Lord's help!' So I felt compelled to offer the burnt offering myself before you came." ¹³ "How foolish!" Samuel exclaimed. "You have not kept the command the Lord your God gave you. Had you kept it, the Lord would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. ¹⁴ But now your kingdom must end, for the Lord has sought out a man after his own heart. The Lord has already appointed him to be the leader of his people, because you have not kept the Lord's command."

Acts 13:17-22 NLT The God of this nation of Israel chose our ancestors and made them multiply and grow strong during their stay in Egypt. Then with a powerful arm he led them out of their slavery. ¹⁸ He put up with them through forty years of wandering in the wilderness. ¹⁹ Then he destroyed seven nations in Canaan and gave their land to Israel as an inheritance. ²⁰ All this took about 450 years. "After that, God gave them judges to rule until the time of Samuel the prophet. ²¹ Then the people begged for a king, and God gave them Saul son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, who reigned for forty years. ²² But God removed Saul and replaced him with David, a man about whom God said, 'I have found David, son of Jesse, a man after my own heart. He will do everything I want him to do.'

Questions:

- Have you ever thought about what it means to be a person who seeks after God's own heart? Think about it what qualities do you think one would need to have in order to have this said about them?
- Have you ever considered yourself as a "person after God's own heart"? What makes you say what you do? What might it look like in your life to be some who searches after God's heart?
- Ask yourself do I really want to be someone who seeks after God's own heart? Or do I prefer to be someone who knows about God, does the "right" things when I feel like it and go about my life in the way I want? Be honest with yourself. How might your life be different if you chose differently?

Reading for the Week:

Monday: Jeremiah 29:13 Tuesday: Deuteronomy 4:29 Wednesday: Psalm 119:9-11 Thursday: 1 Chronicles 16:11 Friday: Hebrews 11:6