

City LG - March 23-24, 2019

Bible Story: Faith My Eyes (Samuel and David) • 1 Samuel 16:7

Bottom Line: God wants me to see what really matters.

Memory Verse: “How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well.” Psalm 139:14, NIV

CG: Countdown Video

WORSHIP: “I Am Yours” and “Dance”

NOTE: Take some time to teach a few of the dance moves to your group.

(Worship Leader Prays)

WELCOME:

Supplies Needed: Bible, Crown, Bethlehem Highway Sign (1 per Campus)

“Hi, everyone! The story I’ve got for you today is about a man named Samuel. *(Hold up Bible.)* Samuel was a prophet, which meant that he would speak God’s words to the people. God gave Samuel a pretty interesting job to do, and let me tell you, NO ONE expected things to turn out the way they did!

“Let me set the scene for you first. For years and years and years—ever since the beginning—God had always taken care of His people. He had rescued them from slavery. He had given them a new land. He had provided everything they could ever need.

“After all that, you’d think the people would trust God. You’d think they’d be like, ‘We’re good. God will take care of us. He always does.’ But that isn’t what happened. Instead, God’s people got jealous because they didn’t have a king like other countries did.”

Hold up the crown.

“So...the people asked the prophet Samuel to give them a king. Though it made God sad that His people weren’t happy with what He had already provided for them, He gave them a ruler: King Saul. But Saul turned out to be a very bad king. Saul had decided he didn’t need God’s help. He figured he was king, so he could just do whatever he wanted. This wasn’t good for God’s people, and it wasn’t good for Saul, either. So God sent Samuel on a journey to find the NEXT king of Israel. God told Samuel to go to Bethlehem and find a man named Jesse.”

Hold up the Bethlehem highway sign.

“God told Samuel that one of Jesse’s sons would be the next king. When Samuel saw Jesse and his sons, he was sure that he had found the one he was looking for: Jesse’s oldest son, Eliab. Listen to what Samuel thought of Eliab.

Open the Bible to 1 Samuel 16:6 (NIV) and read.

“When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab. He thought, “This has to be the one the LORD wants me to anoint for him.”

“Anoint’ basically means ‘choose.’ So basically, Samuel thought, ‘Surely Eliab is the one God has chosen to be the new king.’ After all, Eliab was handsome and tall. He SEEMED pretty kingly. But wait. Hold on a minute. Listen to what God said back to Samuel.

Open the Bible to 1 Samuel 16:7 (NirV) and read.

“But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not consider how handsome or tall he is. I have not chosen him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outside of a person. But the LORD looks at what is in the heart.”

“Whoa. Did you catch that? People look at the outside of a person. But the Lord looks at what? *(Pause for response.)* Right. The heart. Now, this doesn’t mean the heart in your body that pumps all the blood. This is a way of saying that God cares more about the type of person you are, like if you’re kind or generous or loving. That’s what our video is all about today. Let’s take a look!”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 6:00)

“This story today might seem like it was a fairy tale. But it really happened! I mean, Samuel didn’t really travel around with a magical crown that only fit one person, but he really DID go looking for the person God had chosen to be king. And eventually, he found the one God had chosen: David.

“Remember what God said to Samuel.

Open the Bible to 1 Samuel 16:7 (NirV) and read.

“The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outside of a person. But the LORD looks at what is in the heart.” (NirV)

“God wanted Samuel to see what really matters—not what’s on the outside, but what’s on the inside. He wants us to do that, too. Say this with me.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “God wants me to see what really matters.”

KIDS: [Bottom Line] “God wants me to see what really matters.”

“Let’s pray.”

Pray: “God, thank You so much for helping us to remember what really matters. Thank You for helping Samuel to know what to do and where to go to find David. You helped him to see what’s most important: not what’s on the outside of a person, but what’s on the inside. Please help us to see what really matters, too. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

“In the story today, Samuel was trying to figure out which one of Jesse’s sons was the one God had chosen to be king. He figured it would be someone who LOOKED like a king—someone tall and handsome. He was tempted to look at the outside of the person. But God said: *“The LORD looks at what is in the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7 NirV).*

“God wanted Samuel to see what really matters. He wants us to do the same thing. He wants us to take time to really get to know people—not just look at the things we can see on the outside.

“As you go home and to school and to the grocery store and wherever else you go this week, remember to look for what really matters. Take the time to really get to know people. Ask God to help you see the value in others. Look beyond the surface to see what’s on the inside. Can you do that? Of course you can! Before we head to Small Group, let’s worship God with our offering!”

Offering Time:

“Offering time is a chance for us to bring our money to God, so he can use it to make somebody else’s life better. For us, here in the City, we give our offering to an organization called ‘Missions of Hope’ to help kids in Kenya have food, clothes, and learn about God’s love for them. Here at (your Campus name), we bring our offering to help support:

Homer Glen: Victor

New Lenox: Daniel

Orland Park: Michael and Valerie

CG: Picture of Child

“(Your Campus Child) lives in Nairobi, Kenya. Here’s a picture of some cool facts about Nairobi!”

CG: Kenyan Facts JPEG

If you brought your offering today, you can bring it up now and place it here in our offering container while our Offering Video plays! (*show offering container*).”

CG: Offering Video “One Heartbeat” (Runtime: 3:30)

Dismiss to Small Groups