

The Making of a King

1 Samuel 16-17

Greetings everyone, Thank God that we are able to gather together in person today. I think this year, made us all more **grateful** of a lot of things that we took for **granted**. Like church and work and people and simple things like eating out. I'm actually glad that this month classes and schools are starting again and that's unusual.

I remember in the beginning if the year of 2020 the youth group met at my house for fellowship and each of us picked a word to project over this year, like a personal theme for 2020. My word was "**Transition**" because I know that this year, was my year of **transition**.

From my relationship status, my occupation, my position, my income, living situation, and my mindset. This was my year of **being comfortable with allowing God to make necessary transitions in my life.** But I had no idea, of the **transitions** and **trials** God had instore for me and the rest of the world in 2020.

Big Announcement: Besides getting married this year, I think one of the most unbelievable **transition** would have to be me getting **ordained as a pastor** this month. And I'm sure some of you could guess, but this has been one of my secret prayers between me and the Lord for quite some time now. I've had this deep desire to shepherd God's people, since high school and before that.

And I remember a time that I have been so **eager** and **impatient** about where I wanted to be, and what I wanted to do, that I did not leave room for God to move or speak into my situations. And this has definitely been a **lifelong lesson of mine**, and I'm sure he's still working on that.

And so, **for our sermon today**, I would like to share with you, one of those bible stories that God has used to ground me in his faithfulness and truth when I was unsure about my purpose and future. It's the **story of David and Goliath**. So far in our year of biblical narrative, we have just finished the period of the judges and have now entered into the rise of the kings.

The last verse in the book of Judges says, "In those days Israel has no king; and everyone did what seemed right in their own eyes." Israel wanted to look like the other kingdom around them and so they plead to the prophet Samuel for a king, instead of trusting God to be their king. So, God allowed them to choose Saul, who looked like what they wanted in a king, but he turned out to be wicked.

- See, instead of serving the Lord, Saul wanted to serve himself.
- Instead of doing what's right in the Lord, he did what's right in his own eyes.
- Israel was looking for a king that would lay down his own life for his people, but they got a king that end up sacrificing their children to the alter of Moab.

So God took his spirit away from King Saul and told prophet Samuel to anoint another king. (From Jesses house) Again, Samuel was looking for a kingly figure, but God chose David, a shepherd boy. Because the Lord said to Samuel, "do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. the Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." **1Sam16:7**

For my sermon today, I have titled it "**The Making of a King**" I want to show you what it took, for David to reach his God given position, from the time he was **anointed to defeating Goliath** to the moment he **became a King. (15 years)**

So, if you are struggling, with seeing God's calling over your life or your God-given-purpose here on earth, or where you are going in the future, let this **story be your anchor**, and this **message be the theme** of your life.

Today we will be in the book of **1 Samuel chapter 16-17; show you the process**

I think, sometimes it's difficult to hold so tightly to God's promises and **appreciate the process**. Waiting is so hard! We want things now, // but God has a **purpose through the process**. Sometimes God may allow us to walk through some **very dark seasons** of our lives, so that we may **develop a deep dependency** on him.

David experienced that in his own life, and in the darkest season, he sang, "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me." Psalm 23:4

I have only one main message for you today, in 6 points, and that is to **be faithful in the process**.

Be Faithful in the Process

1. Tend the sheep in your season of Separation. (1Sam16:13)

Sometime, God have you in a **season of silence**, to just sit still.

Maybe it's a **season of isolation**, when your separated from everyone and everything.

Maybe it's a **season of singleness** (this is a very uncomfortable chair for some of us)

Did you know, when David was anointed as king it was a very anti-climactic moment.

1Sam16:13, "So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah."

- This **contrast with Samson**, when the spirit came powerfully upon him.
 - He snapped the bondage ropes
 - He ripped the city gates of the philistines
 - He killed thousands of philistines with a donkey's jawbone.
- But when the spirit came upon David... Samuel went home...
- Then in your bibles there's a White space, there's a separation in the story because nothing else happened. That's it? What happen to this anointed king? David went back to being a **shepherd** boy.

God wants David to **Tend the sheep in his season of Separation**.

While all his other brothers where training to fight, David was called to tend the sheep.

His own father didn't even remember to call him in, when Samuel was choosing a king. David must have felt left out in this **season of Separation**.

But it was in those fields that **David became a man after God's own heart**, and said, "The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. 2He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters." Psalms 23:2

So, even though your task might seem boring, or repetitive. Be faithful in the process because God may be **preparing** you for your **purpose**. So, continue to **Tend the sheep in your season of Separation**.

2. Slay the lions in your season of Shaking (1 Sam17:37)

God allows David to go through a **season of shaking** so that he learns to handle the situation and depend on God to **recue** him.

That's why David was **confidant** in God to fight Goliath. When he says, "The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion... will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine." 1 Sam17:37

For some of us, this is a very hard chair to trust God in. While you're facing opposition, God is **shaking** you to the core so that these false foundations my crumble, in order for you to **trust** in him alone.

God allows this, because he wants his children to **stand firm in him** and to **slay the lions in your season of shaking**.

3. Sling the stone in your season of Scarcity (1 Sam17:38-40)

As Christians, sometimes we go through seasons when we have nothing, financial struggles, jobless, or penniless. Yet God wants us to live with the heart of **abundance**, while in **seasons of scarcity**.

Paul said it best phil. 4:12, “I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.” Because Paul understood, that our God can make much, out of little things.

You see, David used what he had, to do what he needed to do. All he had was a sling and stone and that’s what he used.

If you look in **1 Sam17:38-40** Saul gave David weapons and armor, but David used the sling instead, and that’s exactly what was needed to kill Goliath. “³⁸Then Saul dressed David in his own tunic. He put a coat of armor on him and a bronze helmet on his head.³⁹David fastened on his sword over the tunic and tried walking around, because he was not used to them. “I cannot go in these,” he said to Saul, “because I am not used to them.” So he took them off.⁴⁰Then he took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd’s bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine.

See, **God doesn’t need much**, he can use what little you have, whether its 5 bread and 2 fish, or 2 coins, or a bottle of perfume, he can use it! So that’s why we give everything we got. **Sling the stone in your season of Scarcity**, because maybe that’s what is needed in that time.

4. Strum the harp in your season of Sorrow (1 sam16:18)

We know that David was very **talented** in playing the harp, and I wonder did he come up with these **psalms** while he was in the fields? How long did he spent **practicing** this **gift** of music? (This is where the Asian parents says, “*see, learn your piano.*”)

And its important, because we will see that David learned to **worshiping the Lord in times of sorrow.** In fact, a lot of his psalms came out of a **sorrowful event.**

- Psalm 3: David fled from Absalom his son
- Psalm 51: David repenting of his sins after Prophet Nathan convicted him
- Psalms 56: David was captured by the philistines
- Psalms 57: David hid from Saul in a cave
- Psalms 63: David was in the wilderness

David **strum the harp** and **praise the Lord** in the midst of **seasons of sorrow.**

And David also practiced in a way that was notice by people. While King Saul was troubled by a spirit, his servant recommended David to play for him, “¹⁸ One of the servants answered, “I have seen a son of Jesse of Bethlehem who knows how to play the lyre.

So, learn to **strum the herp in your season of sorrow**, learn to worship and praise God even when it seems dark, in times like this David reminds us to sing, “the Lord restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.” Psalms 23:3

Even if you’re in **the season of sorrow** it may be on the **path of righteousness.** So, keep, on, going.

5. Serve Saul in your season of Shame (1 sam16:21-23)

²¹ David came to Saul and entered his service. Saul liked him very much, and David became one of his armor-bearers. ²²Then Saul sent word to Jesse, saying, “Allow David to remain in my service, for I am pleased with him.” ²³Whenever the spirit from God came on Saul, David would take up his lyre and play. Then relief would come to Saul; he would feel better, and the evil spirit would leave him.

How **humiliating** that while your brothers are off in battle to serve the king, David **played music for the king to go to sleep.** It’s **shameful** because normally this was a job of a **eunuch.** And plus, he was serving the very man that will later try to kill him.

But we will see that **God played a part** in this process. The spirit was sent from God to Saul so that David could serve the king in this **season of shame.**

And it was here that David learned **humility.** And later wrote in Psalms 32:5, “You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.”

Because David had an anointing from God, after his **season of shame** came a **season of honor**. So, continue to **Serve your Saul's in your season of shame**.

6. Carry the cheese in your season of Searching (1 Sam17:17-18)

17 Now Jesse said to his son David, "18 Take along these ten cheeses to the commander of their unit. See how your brothers are and bring back some assurance from them."

Now this is very important, that David obeys his father and carried the 10 cheese. If he didn't **carry the cheese**, he wouldn't have the **opportunity** to kill the giant.

This journey from Bethlehem to Elah is crucial to the whole story. Because in order for David to **fulfil his purpose**, he had to be faithful in the small things like **carrying the cheese**. Part of the process

And I am going to tell you right now, this is **not going to be fun//**. Bethlehem to Elah is 15m, so that's a 30m round trip.

In this **season of searching** for purpose, you might end up doing something so **insignificant**, and so **small**, and maybe **no one will notice** you, yet so crucial to the story.
(I almost named this sermon "Carry the Cheese" but I realized that would be a little cheesy.)

You see, from the time David was **anointed** to the moment he **became king** was **15 years**. The **process of making of a king took 15 years**. In that time, God allowed David to walk through these seasons. And after defeating Goliath, David had to endure **seasons of suffering** because he was being pursued by Saul.

But now, looking back, David could see that God used all these things for his good.

-Calling, Experiences, Skills, Gifts, Connections, Opportunities, to reach his Destiny (app)

Don't you see that the **delivery of the cheese//**, though it may seem like an insignificant detail, lead to **deliverance for Israel**, and a blessing to the nations.

DON'T MISS THIS POINT! The very purpose in all of this, is to make **God's name known among the nations**. We have been talking about purpose // what is the purpose?

TO LET THE WORLD KNOW THAT GOD SAVES. That's the whole point.

- This story ends with Israel proclaiming a good news to the nations.
- David respond with obedience, because he understood the promises of God to Abraham, that they will be a blessing to all people. Through his seed
- Standing before the 9ft tall Goliath, David said, "This day the Lord will deliver you into my hands, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head... and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. 47 All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give all of you into our hands." 1 Sam17:46
- The point of "**all of this**"// is to reach the nations and to change the world.

This story should point us to another king from Bethlehem, a descendance of David from the family line of Judah, the promised seed of Abraham, **JESUS CHRIST!**

- Like David, he defeated the real giant in our lives, which **was the power of sin and death**.
- Like David, he stepped onto the battlefield all **alone, as our representative, on our behalf**.
- Like David cutting off Goliath head, we are reminded that on the cross, Jesus crushed the head of the serpent. Like it was promised in the garden.
- And now those who **surrender to King Jesus** gets to become his **subjects** and share in his **victory**.
- Because **king Jesus killed the real giant** in my life, Now **I can face lesser giants with him on my side**.
 - In Christ, I don't have to be afraid of death, or the future, or my enemies or the dark season of my life, because I know that he is with me.
 - Like David I can sing Psalms 23:6, "Surely your **goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**"
 - And that is my prayer over my life, and over my church