



From Shepherd to King

Based on 1 Samuel 16:1–13.

King Saul disobeyed the instruction given to him through God's prophet Samuel, so God instructed Samuel to choose a new king for Israel. Samuel was to go to Bethlehem to offer a sacrifice to God, and to invite Jesse and his sons to join him. God said He would show Samuel which of the sons to anoint to be the next king.

Jesse brought his seven older sons to the sacrifice. Samuel looked at the eldest, Eliab, and thought that surely he was the one. But the Lord said, "Don't pay attention to how tall and handsome he is, or judge by the standard people judge by. People look at the outward appearance, but I look at the heart."

Jesse brought the other six sons to meet Samuel, but none were God's choice for king. Samuel then asked Jesse, "Do you have another son?"

"The youngest son is taking care of the sheep," Jesse replied, and then called for his youngest son, David, to come.

When Samuel saw young David, the Lord spoke to him, "This is the one! Anoint him." Immediately God's Spirit was with David from that day on. David eventually became the king of Israel, and his close relationship with God helped him to be a good leader, which you can read about in a children's Bible story book.



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All scriptures are paraphrased from the King James Version. Illustrated and designed by Didier Martin.

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