



Week 1



Day 1: God Sees the Heart

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-7

Devotional:

Before Samuel went to Jesse's house, Israel already had a king, his name was Saul. At first, Saul started out well, but over time he stopped listening to God and began doing things his own way. Because of this, God decided Saul would no longer be king. This made Samuel very sad.

But God told Samuel it was time to stop mourning and get ready, because He had chosen a new king. So Samuel went to Jesse's house. When he saw Jesse's oldest son, he thought, "This must be the one, he looks strong and important!" But God said something surprising: people look at the outside, but God looks at the heart. God wasn't choosing the tallest, strongest, or most impressive son. He was looking for someone with a humble heart: someone who loved Him and trusted Him. That reminds us that we don't have to look a certain way or be the best at everything for God to choose us. He cares most about what's going on inside us!

Discussion:

1. What are some ways people judge others by the outside?
2. What do you think it means that God looks at your heart?

Prayer:

God, thank You that You see my heart. Help me care more about loving You than about how I look or what others think. Make my heart humble. Amen.

Welcome to Pet Squad!

All month long we are taking a look at the life of David to see what it looks like to have a heart after God's heart! This week, we are learning A Heart After God Is Humble through the story of David being chosen by God to be king. We're paws-itively pumped to get started!

Day 2: Not Chosen... Yet

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 16:8-10

Devotional:

Jesse brought all his sons to Samuel, one by one, hoping God's choice would be obvious.

Samuel probably expected the oldest or strongest son to be the new king. But God said "no" to every single one. That must have been confusing! It's easy to think God isn't noticing us or that we've been passed over, especially when we want something badly or feel ready.

But God's timing and His plan are always perfect. Sometimes, being patient and humble while waiting is exactly what God wants from us. Even if it feels like we're being overlooked, God sees our heart, and He knows the right time to use us for His plan. Just because God didn't pick one of Jesse's other sons, it doesn't mean they were not important to God. He just had different plans for them. God's plan in that moment was for David, the youngest and least expected son, to be chosen as king. A young man with a humble, trusting heart would be His choice to replace Saul one day.

Discussion:

1. Have you ever felt left out? How did that feel?
2. How can we trust God's timing, even when it doesn't match what we want?

Prayer:

God, thank You for knowing what's best for me. Help me to be patient and trust You. Teach me to have a humble heart like David. Amen.



Day 3: The Shepherd Boy

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 16:11-12

Devotional:

After Samuel had seen all of Jesse's older sons, he asked, "Do you have any more sons?" Jesse said, "Yes, the youngest is out taking care of the sheep." Imagine Samuel's surprise! David was just a shepherd boy: small, young, and probably unnoticed by everyone else. But God said, "This is the one."

David wasn't king yet, and he didn't try to make himself look important. He was humble and faithful in the job God had given him, taking care of the sheep. God often uses people in the small, everyday things before giving them big responsibilities. Being faithful in little things shows God, and others, that we can be trusted with bigger things later. Luke 16:10 reminds us of this! A humble heart is not about being the most popular or strongest; it's about loving God, trusting Him, and doing what's right even when no one is watching.

Things like helping out at home without complaining, paying attention during school, or sharing with someone are ways we can be faithful right now!

Discussion:

1. What are some "small things" you can be faithful in (at home, school, church)?
2. Why do you think God chose David?

Prayer:

God, help me be faithful in the little things. Even when no one sees, I want to do what's right. Grow a humble heart in me like David's.
Amen.

Day 4: Chosen by God

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 16:13

Devotional:

Samuel anointed David with oil, showing that God had chosen him to be king. This was a big moment, but David didn't become king right away. He went back to taking care of sheep! David stayed humble, even after being chosen for something important. Sometimes when good things happen to us, it can be easy to become prideful. But a heart after God stays humble, remembering that everything we have comes from Him. God chose David, and God chooses us too, not because we're the strongest, fastest, most popular, or best looking, but because He loves us and He is teaching us to have a heart after Him!

Activity:

Draw a small heart on paper. Write or draw one small, faithful thing you can do this week to show God you love Him and others (helping at home, being kind at school, praying, telling the truth, etc.). Fold the paper and put it somewhere "hidden," like an envelope or under your pillow, to remind you that God sees your heart, even when no one else does. Each day, try to do that small faithful thing, remembering that God notices your humble heart.

Prayer:

God, thank You for loving and choosing me. Help me not to become prideful, but to stay humble and thankful. I want a heart that honors You. Amen.

Memory Verse

**"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."**

1 Samuel 16:7b

