

Series Graphic w/email

Image of a Stop Sign

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{bring up one at a time; same slide}

We miss stuff ... even when obvious.

We can and often do miss God.

John 5:17

Jesus responded to them, “My Father is still working, and I am working also.”

A) We don't believe He is working.

Isaiah 55:8-9

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, and your ways are not My ways.”

This is the Lord's declaration. “For as heaven is higher than earth,

so My ways are higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.

B) His ways are not our ways.

I Corinthians 1:28-29 (NLT)

God chose things despised by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important. As a result, no one can ever boast in the presence of God.

{same slide}

C) God will never honor our pride.

(In fact, His plan and purposes actively work against it!)

{all together; same slide}

I Samuel 16

- **Turning point: Saul to David**
- **x9: how God sees, provides, looks at**
- **Direct and Indirect work of God**

I Samuel 16:1

The Lord said to Samuel, “**How long** are you going to mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and **go**. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem because I have selected for myself a king from his sons.”

1) Being **emotionally “stuck”** makes it hard to “see” ...

In pride, we can enthrone our feelings.

We may have a **reason** to feel a certain way but we have a **responsibility** to be a certain type of person.

God’s ultimate will is not threatened by what His permissive will allows.

I Samuel 16:2-3

Samuel asked, “**How can I go?** Saul will hear about it and kill me!”

The Lord answered, “Take a young cow with you and say, ‘I have come to **sacrifice** to the Lord.’ Then invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will let you know what you are to do. You are to anoint for Me the one I indicate to you.”

How ...? ☞ Be careful about “how-ing**” God’s will ☞ His ways are NOT our ways!**

Revelation 12:11

And they have defeated him by the **blood of the Lamb** and by their testimony.

James 4:7

... humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

I Samuel 16:4-6

Samuel did what the Lord directed and went to Bethlehem. When the elders of the town met him, they trembled and asked, “Do you come in peace?” “In peace,” he replied. “I’ve come to sacrifice to the Lord. Consecrate yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they arrived, Samuel saw **Eliab** and said, “**Certainly** the Lord’s anointed one is here before him.”

2) Failure to become **indifferent** to anything but God’s will makes it hard to see ...

I Samuel 16:7

But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or his stature because I have rejected him. Humans do not **see** what the Lord **sees**, for humans **see** what is visible, but the Lord **sees** the heart.”

Confirmation Bias

The basic human tendency to search for evidence that supports personal beliefs and to overlook contradictory claims.

{Come up one at a time}

Areas for Confirmation Bias

- How we “see” ourselves”
- How we “see” our politics
- How we “see” other people
- How we “see” convicting truth from God’s Word
- How we “see” God

I Samuel 16:8-11a

Jesse called Abinadab and presented him to Samuel. “The Lord hasn’t chosen this one either,” Samuel said. Then Jesse presented Shammah, but Samuel said, “The Lord hasn’t chosen this one either.”¹⁰ After Jesse presented seven of his sons to him, Samuel told Jesse, “The Lord hasn’t chosen any of these.” Samuel asked him, “**Are these all the sons you have?**”

Samuel’s question to Jesse: Faith! (see 16:1)

I Samuel 16:11b-12

“There is still the youngest,” he answered, “but right now he’s **tending the sheep.**” Samuel told Jesse, “Send for him. We won’t sit down to eat until he gets here.” So Jesse sent for him. He had beautiful eyes and a healthy ... appearance. Then the Lord said, “**Anoint him, for he is the one.**”

I Corinthians 1:28 (NLT)

God chose things despised by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important.

3) Not praying for “spiritual” sight** makes it hard to see ...**

Psalms 119:18, 24

Open my eyes so that I may contemplate wondrous things from your instruction ... your decrees are my delight and my **counselors.**

I Samuel 16:13-19

So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the **Spirit of the Lord** came powerfully on David **from that day forward**. Then Samuel set out and went to Ramah. Now the **Spirit of the Lord had left Saul**, and an evil spirit sent from the Lord began to torment him, so Saul's servants said to him, "You see that an evil spirit from God is tormenting you. Let our lord command your servants here in your presence to look for someone who knows how to play the lyre. Whenever the evil spirit from God comes on you, that person can play the lyre, and you will **feel better.**" Then Saul commanded his servants, "Find me someone who plays well and bring him to me." One of the young men answered, "I have seen a son of Jesse of Bethlehem who knows how to play the lyre. He is also a valiant man, a warrior, eloquent, handsome, and the Lord is with him." Then Saul dispatched messengers to Jesse and said, "Send me your son David, who is **with the sheep.**"

4) Putting **worldly position and power over the **presence** of God makes it hard to see ...**

The pasture is not the sign of God's absence but the scene of His presence ... and His preparation.

5) Prioritizing **feeling better over repentance and seeking God makes it hard to see ...**

I Samuel 16:20-23

So Jesse took a donkey loaded with bread, a wineskin, and one young goat and sent them by his son David to Saul. When David came to Saul and **entered his service**, Saul loved him very much, and David became his armor-bearer. Then Saul sent word to Jesse: "Let David remain in my service, for he has found favor with me." Whenever the spirit from God came on Saul, **David would pick up** his lyre and play, and Saul would then be relieved, feel better, and the evil spirit would leave him.

David:

DO THE **NEXT THING--**

Bring the grace of God and the gifts and fruit of His Spirit of God into everything you do.