

PURSUING

Speaker - Mike Baker

Friday Night

Psalm 23 & 1 Samuel 16

- When we say that David was a man after God's own heart, we mean that David was pursuing God.

- What would people that know you put in these blanks:

“ (Your Name) “is a man/woman after _____.”

- 1 Samuel 16:7, “But 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 man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.’”

- King Saul had the appearance of a king (tall, strong), but in 1 Samuel 10:23-24 he was hiding among the baggage. He looked good on the outside but was wicked on the inside. This is not what God desires. God wants a heart that is pursuing Him.

- Our Image cannot fool God. He can tell if our heart is right or if we are just trying to fool people. God knows.

- What are you pursuing? How would your life look different if you started to pursue God?

What was it about David?

1. Shepherd - watched sheep. He obviously wasn't concerned with prestige. It was a simple role that he did well.

2. David was willing to take his role/place in the family - He accepted where God placed him.

- We tend to always want to get away to the next stage of our life and be older. “When I _____, then things will be better.”

- God puts you where he wants you! You can get mad, or you can embrace it.

- God will never take you some place new until you accept where you are now. God has purpose for where you are NOW!



- Don't stand in the field, wishing you were at the banquet. Do your job - watch sheep.
- Bottom Line: What are you pursuing???

Saturday Morning

1 Samuel 24 - David Spares Saul's Life

•After cutting a piece of Saul's robe off in the cave, David was convicted in his heart.

3 Ways to Pursue a Humble Heart

1. Realize that the Lord Anoints.

•You do not have to compete, because God has made you who you are and put you where you are.

•1 Corinthians 12:11

2. Realize that the Lord Judges.

• We spend a lot of our life figuring out that things are unfair.

3. Realize that the Lord Rewards the Humble.

Saturday Night

Psalm 51 and 2 Samuel 11 & 12 - David Sins

•The first four verses of chapter 11 is David sinning and the next 23 verses are the consequences of that sin.

•Bathsheba's husband Uriah had integrity and a good heart.

•When He had Uriah killed, David thought that he had gotten away with his sin. Sin always leads to a false heart.

•When the Prophet Nathan came to David and told him a story in chapter 12, David got angry. Isn't it amazing how easy it is to see other people's sins, but our own hearts are hard to examine?

•In 2 Samuel 12:13, David owns his sin.

BE PURSUING

What Did David Want God to Do?

1. David wanted God to **Show Mercy**.
 - David Confessed that He was Sinning. Like David, we need to admit our sins to God.
 - We need to acknowledge to God that our sin has separated us from him and that we desire to be forgiven and restored.
2. David wanted God to **Cleanse Him**.
 - 1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."
3. David wanted God to **Change Him**.
 - Psalm 51:10, "Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me."
4. David Wanted God to **Use Him**.
 - Ephesians 2:10, "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Sunday Morning

2 Samuel 9 - David & Mephibosheth

- David reaches out to a man that most kings would have killed.
- Are we looking for opportunities to serve and bless others?
- Mephibosheth was a likely looked down upon because of his disability. Are there people in your world that are shunned? How can you use God's abundant love in your heart to bless and serve these people? How can you love the unlovely?