



June 8 & 9, 2024

Community Bible Church
Sermon Discussion Questions: Jun 9, 2024
Pastor Ed Newton

Title: Labels Do Stick

Text: 1 Samuel 16-17

Target: The labels put on you were never supposed to stick, but they did and today they come off.

Question #1: *Have you ever felt labeled in a way that didn't reflect who you truly are? How did that label affect your self-perception and actions?*

- I. **Overlooked, but Not Unnoticed:** *“But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” (1 Sam. 16:7)*
- A. **You're Not Invited:** *“Are all your sons here?” (Vs.11a)*
 - B. **You Don't Count:** *“There remains yet the youngest” (Vs. 11b)*
 - C. **You Don't have Experience:** *“Behold, he is keeping the sheep” (Vs. 11c)*
 - D. **You Don't have the Look:** *“And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the LORD said, “Arise, anoint him, for this is he.” 1 Samuel 16:12*

Question #2: *How do you respond when others doubt your abilities? What can we learn from David's response to Saul's doubts?*

Question #3: *What does 1 Samuel 16:7 teach us about God's perspective versus our human perspective? When we adopt God's perspective, how does that change our daily lives? How can we, as a community, focus more on the heart and character of individuals?*

- II. **Anointed, but not yet Appointed:** *“Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward” (1 Samuel 16:13)*
- A. **You're Self Serving:** *“Now Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spoke to the men. And Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, “Why have you come down? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your presumption and the evil of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle.” (1 Sam. 17:28)*

- B. You're Incapable:** *"And Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him, for you are but a youth, and he has been a man of war from his youth." (1 Sam. 17:33)*
- C. You're not the Right Fit:** *1 Samuel 17:38-39: Then Saul clothed David with his armor. He put a helmet of bronze on his head and clothed him with a coat of mail, and David strapped his sword over his armor. And he tried in vain to go, for he had not tested them. Then David said to Saul, "I cannot go with these, for I have not tested them." So David put them off.*

Question #4: *Why was it significant that David refused to wear Saul's armor? How did David's experience as a shepherd prepare him for his future role? Can you recall a time when an unexpected experience prepared you for a significant task?*

- III. A Champion, not a Contestant:** *"Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied." (1 Samuel 17:45)*
- A. Confidence in my Creator:** *"and that all this assembly may know that the LORD saves not with sword and spear. For the battle is the LORD's, and he will give you into our hand." (1 Sam. 17:47)*
- B. Skill that sets me Apart:** *"So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him. There was no sword in the hand of David." (1 Samuel 17:50)*
- C. Clarity in my Calling:** *And Saul said to him, "Whose son are you, young man?" And David answered, "I am the son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite." (1 Samuel 17:58)*

Takeaway: You may be overlooked by everyone else, but you are handpicked by God.

Question #5: *How does knowing you are handpicked by God change your view of yourself and your circumstances? What practical steps can you take to remove negative labels that others have placed on you? How would you help others do the same?*