

More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: ALent 4x2017

Text: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” 2 Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ 3 Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.”

4 Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” 5 He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

6 When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.” 7 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 does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.”

8 Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” 9 Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” 10 Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” 11 Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.”

12 He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” 13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Eye - I/S, Math - I, Body - I, People - I/S

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
Word - Verbal/Linguistic	The names of Jesse’s sons suggest how they would lead? All could apply, too, to the Lord. The one that is chosen is Beloved.	the verb ‘to see’ occurs three times in v. 7. Repetition means emphasis! This is similar to legal contracts where certain words are used over and over. Or	

		children’s stories where a phrase is repeated throughout the story in order to teach a lesson.	
<p>Eye - Visual/Spatial</p> <p>D2</p>		<p>Vs. 7 - 58% of CEO’s are over 6 feet tall. (see also Body)</p> <p><i>There is a visual-spatial impact in having to look up at a taller person.</i></p> <p><i>There are also social implications to this. How do the CEO’s exploit their height advantage?</i></p>	<p>Vss. 6-7 He chose... poorly.</p> <p>Walter Donovan (Julian Glover) drinks out of what he believes to be the Holy Grail. Dazzled by the beauty of the chalice, he says, “This certainly is the cup of the King of kings.”</p> <p><i>A film clip is always engaging to the eyes. If you don’t use the clip but only describe it as an illustration, you will evoke visual images for those who have seen the movie and, if you do it well, for those who have not.</i></p>
<p>Math - Logical/Mathematical</p> <p>MWD</p>	<p>David has not usurped the crown, it was given to him.</p>	<p>Vs. 11 - This is another story that puts the cultural practice of primogeniture on its head. Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, and now David are all younger sons. Maybe God selected them because the elder brothers would be too busy maintaining the inheritance to do what God wanted? At any rate, the second (or later born) is the pattern until Jesus who is the first born.</p> <p><i>The logic of the culture was that there was particular blessing associated with being first. Perhaps because the eldest was closer in line to the original human founded by God? (see this on the sociology of primogeniture.) Or, from the same article, perhaps to maintain unity of estate.</i></p>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seven is a perfect (complete) number in Hebrew numerology. David is the eighth son, like eighth day of creation (Easter) - new beginning. <i>Numerology is not widely accepted in our culture, except in certain instances pertaining to luck - 7 (good) and 13 (bad), for example. As a field of study it seems to be neither mathematical nor logical. But here it is, since it has to do with numbers and has its own internal logic.</i> 	
<p>Body - Kinesthetic</p> <p>D2</p>		<p>Vs. 7 - Physical Attributes of Business Leaders</p> <p>“Columbia management professor Sheena Iyengar has found that men earn about 2.5% more per inch of height.”</p> <p>“The nauseating takeaway: We’re biased to favor tall, fit, deep-voiced leaders like Schultz — in other words, alpha males.”</p> <p><i>Discussing the physical attributes of leaders may make people aware of their own physical attributes in comparison?</i></p> <p><i>There is perhaps also a People Smart element to this, as it appears we culturally and subconsciously assign value to a person based on physicality.</i></p>	Vs. 7 - "looks on the heart"
Musical			
Natural			
<p>People - Interpersonal</p>	<p>“There is always the temptation to see what</p>	<p>The twelve tribes were transitioning to a nation;</p>	<p>Letting God surprise us: why is such an attitude so</p>

<p>MWD</p>	<p>is on offer, what is exceptional in appearance, what meets accepted standards, what is impressive, what is beautiful, what seems secure, appropriate and fitting. But the economy of the Lord's choosing offends such standards.” ~ Howard Wallace</p>	<p>the present was uncertain and the future was entirely clouded. Choosing well was vital to the people. In this passage, Samuel is listening hard to God's voice, relying on God's guidance and presence. <i>Samuel, in relationship with God, is struggling to overcome societal norms and expectations about leadership, as noted in Math and Body above.</i></p> <p>This brings to mind search committees - discerning God's intention for leadership is crucial. <i>The biblical concept of "call" for leadership is demonstrated in this story as God works through Samuel who had a unique prophetic relationship with God. The process in the church today should include several people working collaboratively to discern God's will.</i></p>	<p>important for anyone wishing to discern God's presence?</p> <p>How often and WHY do we tend toward secure choices when making decisions in the church?</p>
<p>Self - Intrapersonal</p>			