



BIG IDEA

What do your eyes see when you look at the cross of Christ? Do you see his love for you? Do you see how God's chosen King in love gave his life so you might receive life, new life, the abundant life, a humble and repentant life? May you humble yourself before him and receive his love allowing him to pour his anointing oil of his grace and mercy upon you.

THOUGHTS FROM THE SERMON

1. What stood out to you in this week's sermon? What were your biggest takeaways?

Read: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

2. The Israelites wanted a tall and handsome man to be their king. They judged by outward appearances. In what ways do we judge a book by its cover in our own lives? How can we avoid having these thoughts?
3. God chose David as king not because of his outward appearance, but because he knew his heart. Can you recall how the life and obedience of David was different to that of Saul's?
4. God's evaluation of our hearts is how he determines what our role in his story will be? How have you seen God sovereign over both a hardened heart and a faithful one? Choose examples from scripture and from personal experience.
5. Pastor Josh stated, "It's hard to talk about David, and him being a man after God's heart, and not acknowledge his adulterous and murderous affair with Bathsheba." How can we reconcile these two truths? How can this provide us comfort?

Read: Psalm 51

6. How are you responding to sin in your life? How are you responding to the Nathan in your life who God is using to lovingly and graciously call you back to him? Consider sharing a personal experience.
7. According to Pastor Josh, how can we cultivate our hearts so that we're a group of men and women after God's own heart? Where do we begin?
8. After reflecting on the sermon and our passage, how does this point us to Jesus?

Read: Luke 4:16-22

9. Share personal insights, commitments, or action items inspired by the sermon and the discussion. In other words, how will you respond to the message this week?

NOTES

PERSONAL REFLECTION AND APPLICATION

1. What has God shown you as you studied his word this week?
2. Why is there such value in reading and understanding the scriptures we looked at this week?
3. What points in the message encouraged you and gave you hope?
4. How will you personally apply what you learned from the sermon to your life?

DEEPER

Pray: Pray that the Holy Spirit would give you a humble heart. Pray that he would keep you from judging by outward appearances. And thank the King of kings for being faithful to the Father even when being judged on his outward appearance.

Read: Consider reading 1 and 2 Samuel to see how it fits into God's sovereign, redemptive story.

Write: Take time to write down your thoughts and insights from the sermon this week. Keeping a journal is just one more tool that you can use to track what God is showing you in your walk with him. Consider writing in questions for the podcast on the Gateway Church app.

Sing: Listen to the worship songs from Sunday throughout the week. Look up the lyrics to each song and spend some time reading them as well.

Memorize: As a Life Group, memorize a verse from the sermon passage that stuck out to you this week.

Love: Share God's rescue story with someone you love.