



Sermon Discussion Questions: June 29, 2025

When God Prepares Someone

Call to Worship: Psalm 33:1-5

1. This psalm is probably written by David. Considering the heartache, treachery, and remorse with which he had to deal, how do you think he maintained such an overwhelming and spontaneous joy in the Lord?
2. How is this passage related to the theme of the sermon: Spiritual preparation?
3. Brother Noah quoted the missionary Jim Elliot, who cautioned against "wasting our lives on the altar of self." State one way you do that.

Sermon: 1 Samuel 16:14-23

God works all things for good - Verses 14-16

4. By verse 16:14, King Saul is in a spiritually precarious situation.
 - a. What should Saul have done?
 - b. What should we do when we feel distant from the Lord and out of touch with the Holy Spirit?
5. In verses 15 and 16, we learn that King Saul had some insightful and loyal servants. Like vice-presidents and press secretaries, they have a profound calling to be loyal to their superior. However, they also are under the same burden as the rest of us to be honest. What does "integrity" look like in these situations?
6. What is the first clue we have that God is continuing to work through us? Answer: We _____.
7. How do we reconcile God's infinite holiness with him sending Saul a harmful spirit?

God uses the ordinary, not just the extraordinary - Verses 17-19

8. Let's say that we view the time between David being anointed by Samuel, and David assuming the throne, as a time of God grooming David to assume his responsibilities. How did David's trials prepare him for the throne?
9. If there was a time of adversity or heartache in your life, that you now realize was God "grooming" you for a future responsibility, share your story.
10. Complete this sentence: Faithfulness in our current roles is needed for _____.
11. Give two reasons, mentioned in Colossians 3:23-24, why we should work hard at any task we accept.

When you respect the office but not the office-holder - Verses 20-23

12. David's music provided Saul with a wholesome way to deal, at least temporarily, with his sense of despair. Share a wholesome (not necessarily spiritual) way with which you cope with depression/discouragement/stress.
13. Saul made David his armor-bearer, a position of trust. Tragically, he came to hate and fear David. Where else in scripture do we see this unwarranted hate and fear?
14. Pastor Paul encouraged us to view all tasks as opportunities to glorify God. How do we elevate mundane, tedious chores (e.g. cleaning a messy room) to acts of worship?

Prayer Points:

1. Help me trust when the plan leads through the valley
2. How can I be more faithful in the everyday things God calls me to do?
3. What skills and talents has God given me that I am not using for His glory?