

**April 2009**

**Pursuing the Purpose of God**

**Today's Message: Pursuing Purpose @ Work**

**1 Samuel 16.14-23**

April 19, 2009

REVIEW:

From Way Down to Way Up! Philippians 2.5-10

1. Where you are does not change God's search for you. **1 Sa. 16.11**  
*11 So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?"  
"There is still the youngest," Jesse answered, "but he is tending the sheep."*

- David was not even called to meet the prophet!  
Even when others forget you, God never does!

When God makes a choice the choice is made and He chose you!

2. Who you were has nothing to do with who you will be. **Est 2:17**  
*The king loved Esther more than all the women, and she found favor and kindness with him more than all the virgins, so that he set the royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.*

- Esther was a foreigner and hated as a Jew. **Mt.19:30**  
*30 But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first*

3. What you become is His doing and not yours. **Prov 19:21**  
*Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails. NIV*

Too often we treat purpose as if it's a far away place that only a few ever achieve. But when you examine the great men and women of purpose in the Bible they were just living life and completing the tasks before them. They possibly had a sense of purpose like we do but they certainly knew nothing of the specifics of their long-term purpose. No one was any more shocked than David when Samuel called on him to be anointed king. And who knew that a simple trip to bring food to his soldier-brothers would make him the greatest warrior in the history of a nation. Who knew that Saul's need for an excellent musician would be one of the ways God would help him become comfortable with "palace" life?

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**1 Samuel 16.14-23**

1. Make every act an act of excellence.

- David had a reputation for giving his best.
- Past performance made way for future success!
- Anything worth doing is worth doing well.

2. Make every act something that blesses a lost person.

- David's boss had demons!
- His worship drove the demons out.
- David's excellent work was destroying the enemy's plans!

3. Make every act something that expands the kingdom.

- David was literally redefining the worship of Israel.

Sometimes it might be better that we didn't know how much influence that we have.

- What we do for a person can change a family, a community even a nation!
- The real goal is to "seek first the kingdom"

**Matt 6:31-34**

*31 "So do not start worrying: 'Where will my food come from? or my drink? or my clothes?' 32 (These are the things the pagans are always concerned about.) Your Father in heaven knows that you need all these things. 33 Instead, be concerned above everything else with the Kingdom of God and with what he requires of you, and he will provide you with all these other things. 34 So do not worry about tomorrow; it will have enough worries of its own. There is no need to add to the troubles each day brings. TEV*

4. Make every act something that prepares for the next act.

- God uses everything in our lives to prepare us for the next step in our lives.
- David's worship in the fields was rehearsal for what would come next in his life.
- I had no idea that God was using my secular work to equip me.

I didn't see it equipping me for what I'm doing today and I complained!