



## Identifying Potential Leaders

Odyssey Of An Emerging Leader - Part 6 of 7

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**Big Idea:** Whether Christianity is one generation from extinction or one generation from revival and resurgence largely depends on how effectively we identify, train and mobilize courageous and godly leaders and pass the baton of leadership to them.

**Text:** 1 Samuel 16:1-13

*Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them slip from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them. – Deuteronomy 4:9*

*And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others. – 2 Timothy 2:2*

*The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king." – 1 Samuel 16:1*

### **I. A WISE SPIRITUAL LEADER ACKNOWLEDGES THERE IS AN APPROPRIATE TIME TO BRING ON FRESH LEADERSHIP.**

*But Samuel said, "How can I go? Saul will hear about it and kill me." The LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'" – 1 Samuel 16:2*

### **II. A WISE SPIRITUAL LEADER ANTICIPATES SOME OPPOSITION TO CHANGE NO MATTER HOW APPROPRIATE THE CHANGE MAY BE.**

*When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, "Do you come in peace?" – 1 Samuel 16:4b*

*Samuel replied, "Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. – 1 Samuel 16:5*

*When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed stands here before the LORD." – 1 Samuel 16:6*

*But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." – 1 Samuel 16:7*

### **III. A WISE SPIRITUAL LEADER SEES BEYOND THE SURFACE AND EVALUATES PEOPLE FROM GOD'S PERSPECTIVE.**

*Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, "The LORD has not chosen this one either." Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, "Nor has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, "The LORD has not chosen these." – 1 Samuel 16:8-10*

*So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?" "There is still the youngest," Jesse answered, "but he is tending the sheep." Samuel said, "Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives." – 1 Samuel 16:11*

*So he sent and had him brought in. He was ruddy, with a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; he is the one." So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came upon David in power. – 1 Samuel 16:12-13a*

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

*"The LORD does not look at the things man looks at.  
Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."  
– 1 Samuel 16:7b*