

DAY 22

An Unlikely List

But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or his stature because I have rejected him. Humans do not see what the Lord sees, for humans see what is visible, but the Lord sees the heart.”

1 Samuel 16:7

Leadership Affirmation

I marvel that the Lord loves me so much He not only welcomes me into His family; He also trusts me to lead others for His glory.

The God of the Bible has a rather awkward habit of choosing all the wrong people as leaders. He consistently picks ones no one else would hire. He doesn't seem interested in résumés. Take *Moses*, for example. When we meet him in Exodus, he's not exactly brimming with spiritual confidence. And yet, God calls him.

Moses' first question is a good one: *Who am I?* Moses sees the gap between what God is asking and what he feels capable of doing. Here's the truth: the gap is real. Moses is not capable. He's not a great public speaker. He's been off the grid for decades. And God doesn't really answer Moses. He simply says, *I will be with you.*

That's it. That's the resume. Presence, not performance. God doesn't need our qualifications. He supplies what we lack. So, if you feel unqualified, you're in excellent biblical company.

The Bible is packed with divine head-scratchers: *Gideon*, hiding in a winepress, calling himself the least of the least. *Rahab*, a prostitute turned protector of Israel's spies who became the great-grandmother of the everlasting line of royalty. *Peter*, a loudmouth fisherman with a habit of saying the wrong thing at the worst time. *Paul*, a former Christian killer turned missionary extraordinaire.

Then there's *David*. Neither his dad Jesse nor the prophet-judge Samuel saw much to look at. But God told Samuel to look a little deeper. David had bigger, taller, older brothers. But it was David who stepped out in the Valley of Elah to face Goliath, knowing that the victory belongs to the Lord (1 Samuel 17:45–47).

God doesn't call us because of who we are. He calls us because of Who He Is! So if you've ever thought, “Surely not me,” take heart. That's exactly the kind of person God tends to choose.

Prayer for Protection

Lord, at times, Your trust in me to lead fills me with false pride, which I confessionally reject and give over to You.