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Inside Out

Key References: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; *Patriarchs and Prophets*, chap. 62, pp. 637-642; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 3, pp. 187-192; Our Beliefs, nos. 22, 18, 11.



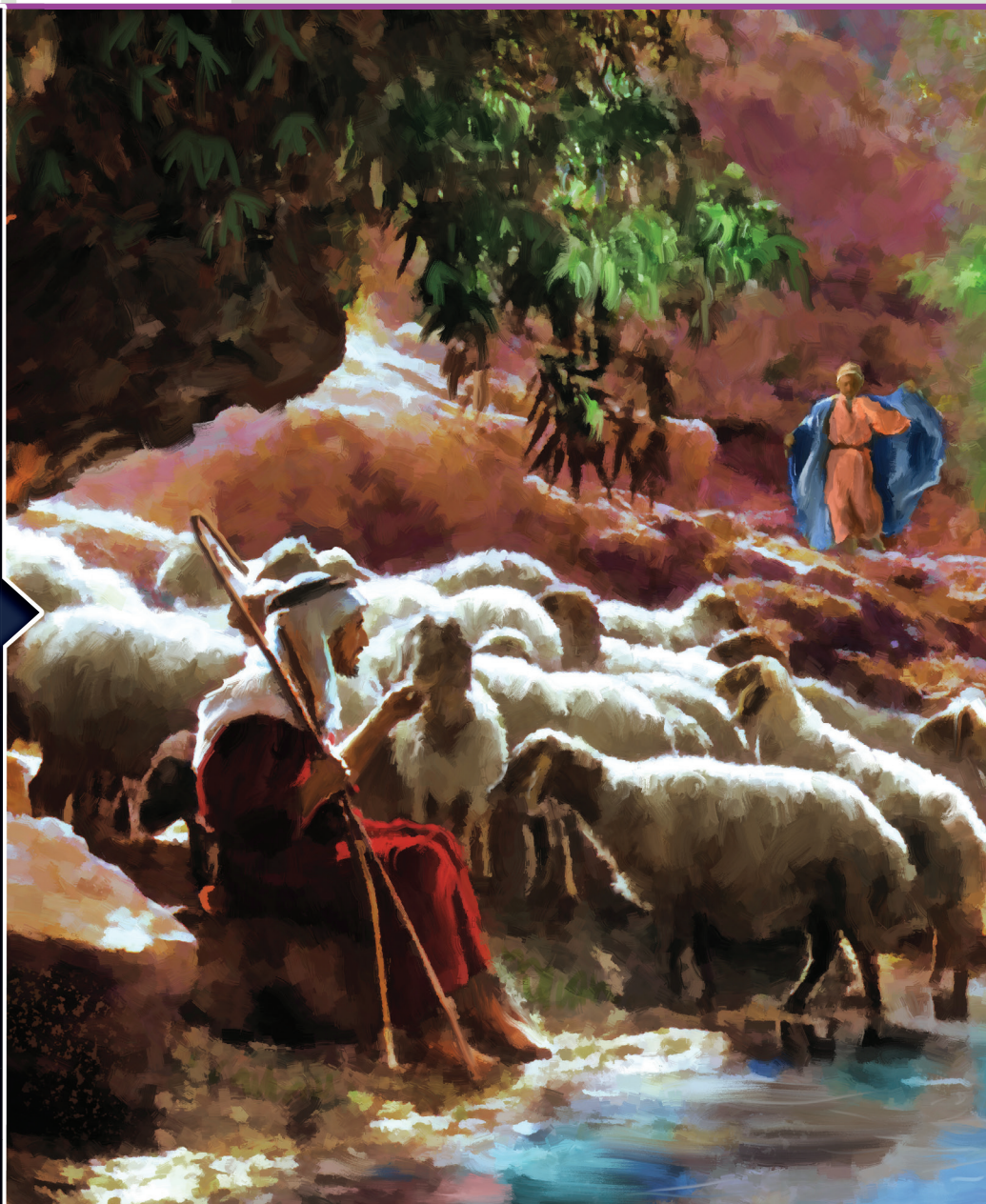












powertext

"The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7, NIV).

Sabbath

DO Do the activity on page 89.

power**point**

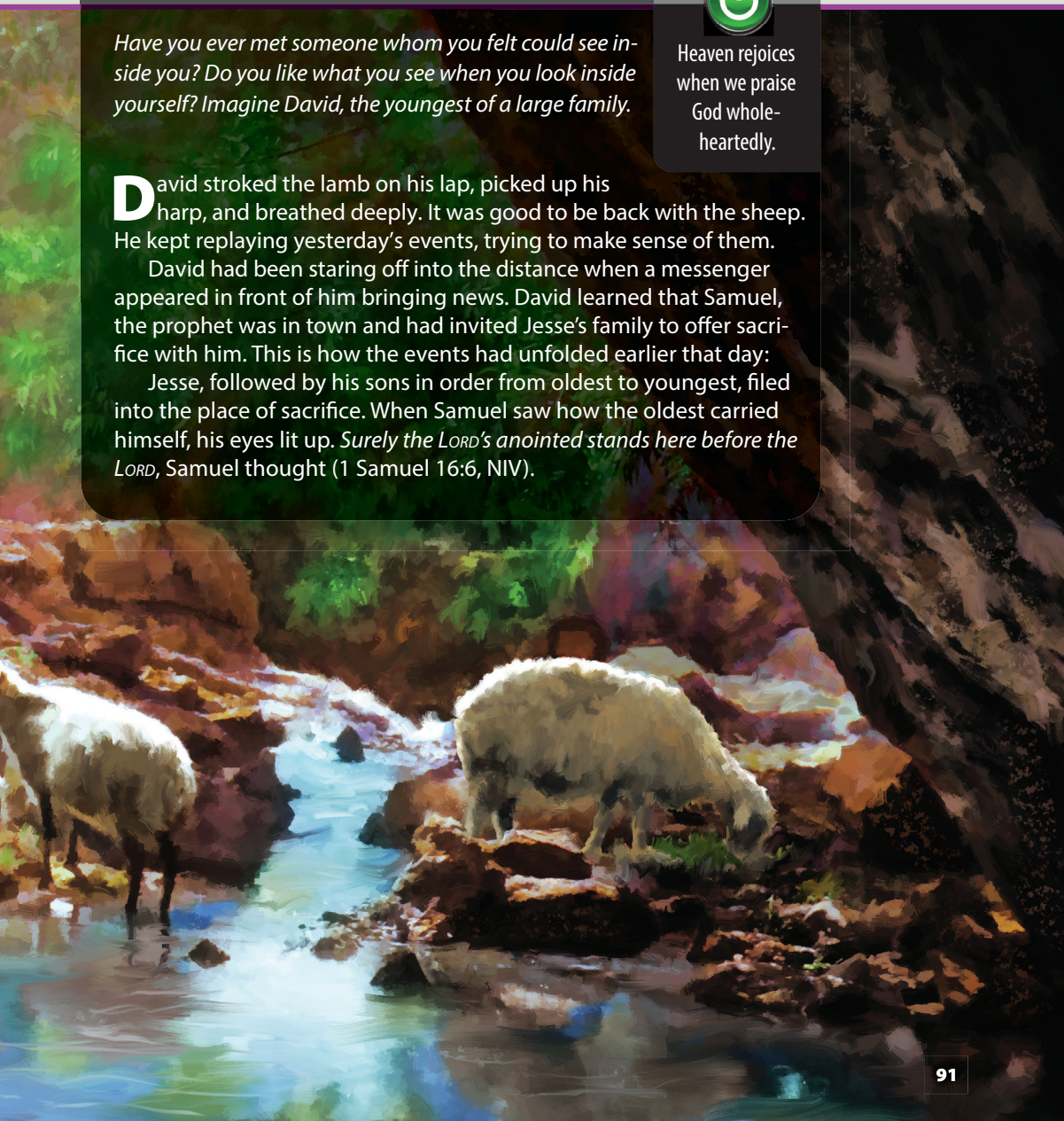
Heaven rejoices when we praise God wholeheartedly.

Have you ever met someone whom you felt could see inside you? Do you like what you see when you look inside yourself? Imagine David, the youngest of a large family.

David stroked the lamb on his lap, picked up his harp, and breathed deeply. It was good to be back with the sheep. He kept replaying yesterday's events, trying to make sense of them.

David had been staring off into the distance when a messenger appeared in front of him bringing news. David learned that Samuel, the prophet was in town and had invited Jesse's family to offer sacrifice with him. This is how the events had unfolded earlier that day:

Jesse, followed by his sons in order from oldest to youngest, filed into the place of sacrifice. When Samuel saw how the oldest carried himself, his eyes lit up. *Surely the Lord's anointed stands here before the Lord*, Samuel thought (1 Samuel 16:6, NIV).



12

Sunday

READ Read 1 Samuel 15:24-29 and this week's story, "Inside Out."

LEARN Write the power text on a paper window you've drawn and learn it.

PRAY Pray that you will want to be transparent to God.

Monday

READ Read 1 Samuel 16:1, 2.

THINK Reflect on the risks that prophets often had to take. What was the role of a prophet? If God decided that Saul could no longer be king, why was Samuel sad? Why did Samuel think that Saul would want to kill him if he heard about the new king?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God to keep you focused on the good plans God has in store for your life.

Tuesday

READ Read 1 Samuel 16:2-5.

THINK Why did the elders tremble and ask if Samuel came in peace?

REVIEW Review the power text.

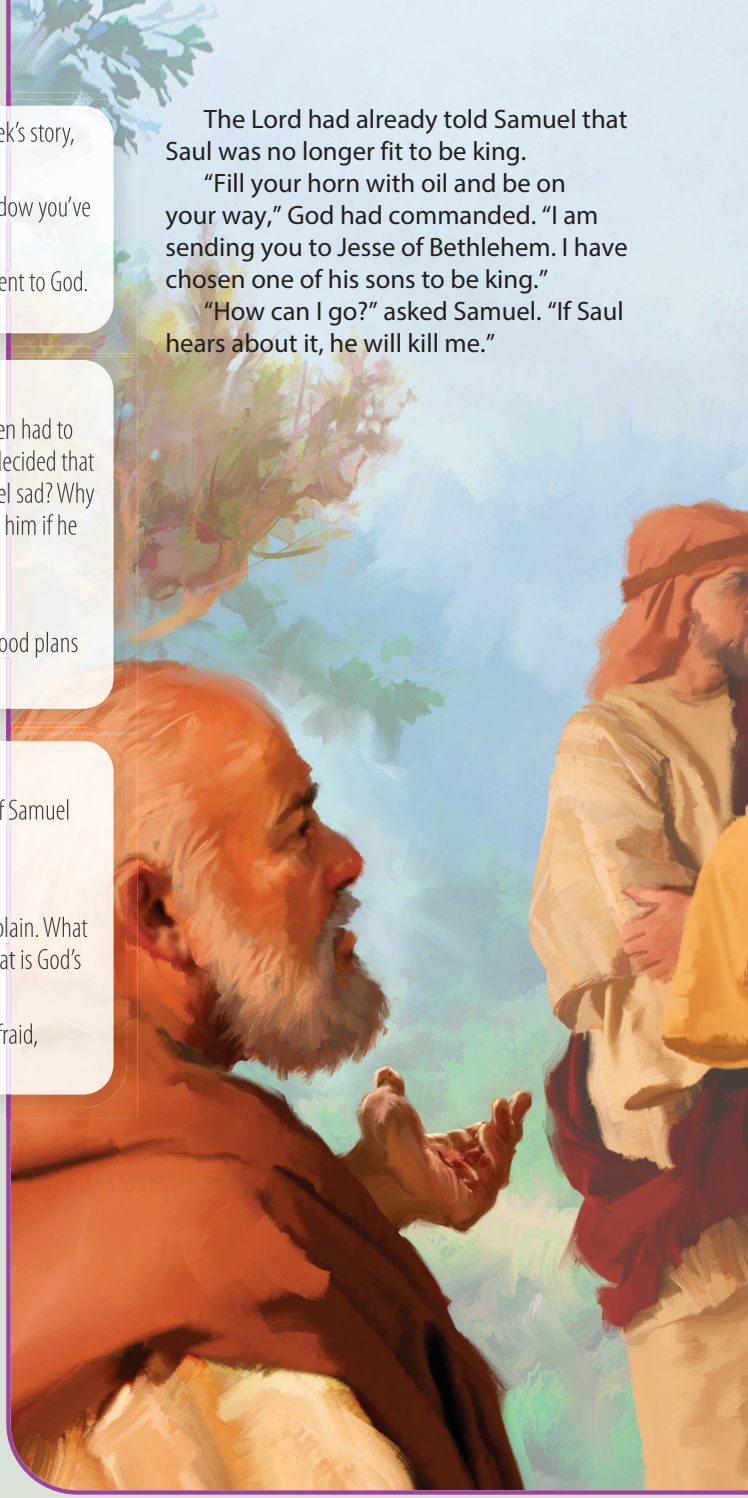
REFLECT How do you handle your fears? Explain. What does God think of us when we are afraid? What is God's solution to fear? (See 2 Timothy 1:7.)

PRAY Thank God that we don't need to be afraid, because His Spirit of love casts out all fear.

The Lord had already told Samuel that Saul was no longer fit to be king.

"Fill your horn with oil and be on your way," God had commanded. "I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king."

"How can I go?" asked Samuel. "If Saul hears about it, he will kill me."



The Lord replied and said: "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate" (verses 1-3, NIV).

So Samuel had set out with a young cow for the sacrifice and his horn of oil for anointing. The elders were happy when he told them he had come to sacrifice.

As Eliab passed before Samuel, the prophet heard the Lord's voice, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not



Wednesday

READ Read 1 Samuel 16:7-11.

THINK Think of a person in today's world who looks good on the outside but has turned out to be not very nice inside. How do you know?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God to make you pure inside and out. Pray that He will help you focus on the inner character values.

Thursday

READ Read 1 Samuel 16:12, 13.

THINK What do you think was the difference between David and his brothers? Was it merely a difference in outward appearance or much more than that?

REVIEW Review the power text.

LIST Using the following texts, list in your Bible study journal character traits God looks for in people's hearts: Psalm 78:71, 72; 1 Chronicles 28:9; Luke 16:10; Micah 6:8.

PRAY Ask God to place these traits into your heart.

Friday

READ Read 1 Samuel 16:7.

SING Sing a song based on Micah 6:8 to begin family worship.

CREATE Create a poem or song about this week's story, using the power text as your main chorus.

REPEAT Say the power text aloud from memory.

PRAY Thank God for looking at the real you.

look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart" (verse 7, NIV).

Samuel turned next to Aminadab, the second son of Jesse. "The LORD has not chosen this one either," Samuel said. Jesse called Shammah, the third oldest. "Nor has the LORD chosen this one," said Samuel. After the last of the seven sons passed in front of Samuel, the prophet said, "The LORD has not chosen these." Then he asked, "Are these all the sons you have?"

"There is still the youngest," replied Jesse. "He is tending the sheep."

"Send for him," Samuel ordered. "We will not sit down until he arrives" (verses 8-11, NIV).

That's when the messenger brought the news to David that the prophet was waiting to see him. David was very surprised. *Why would the prophet want to see him?* he wondered. *And who would guard his father's sheep?*

Then the messenger took David's staff and began to watch over the sheep. David hurried away to meet the prophet.

As soon as Samuel saw David, he felt a glimmer of hope. David's bronzed handsome face was flushed from running into town. Samuel could tell he was strong like his older brothers. But their resemblance ended there. There was a light in David's eyes that seemed to come from deep within him. David wore an air of purity, innocence, courage, and kindness.

"Rise and anoint him," God said to Samuel. "This is the one" (see verse 12 , NIV).

Samuel pulled out his horn of oil. When the prophet touched his head with the oil, David felt deeply moved that God had chosen him, a humble shepherd boy, and the youngest in his family, to one day rule the nation of Israel. His heart was full of joy, gratitude, and praise to God.

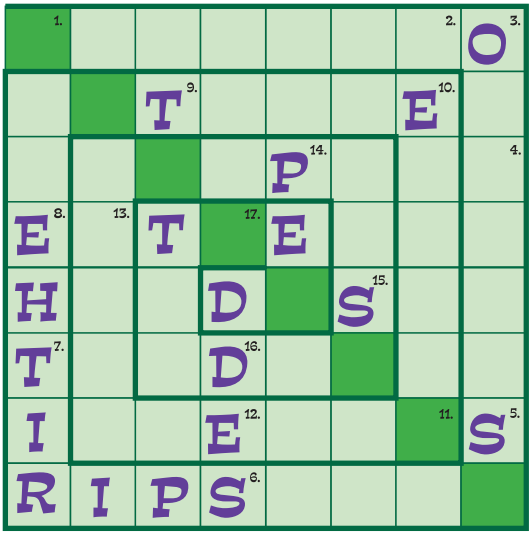
Now as David sat on the hill once more, he composed another song of praise to the Lord. He didn't know what lay ahead of him, but he knew Who was with him.



INSIDE JOB

Instructions: Place the clue answers in the grid, starting at number 1. Each answer begins with the last letter of the previous answer. This letter is not repeated, but is used by both words. When all the clues have been placed in the grid, the diagonal shaded area forms the two-word puzzle answer. We have given you some letters to help you get started.

Clue answers (unless marked otherwise) are in 1 Samuel 16:1-13 (NIV).



Clues:

1. "He is _____ the sheep" (verse 11).
2. "How can I ___?" (verse 2).
3. "Samuel took the horn of _____" (verse 13).
4. "People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD _____ at the heart" (verse 7).
5. "Surely the LORD's anointed _____here" (verse 6).
6. "The _____ of the LORD came powerfully upon David" (verse 13).
7. "This is _____ one" (verse 12).
8. Jesse had _____ sons (see verses 10, 11).
9. "The LORD has not chosen _____" (verse 10).
10. "The LORD has not chosen this one _____" (verse 8).
11. "_____ and anoint him" (verse 12).
12. "The _____ of the town trembled when they met him" (verse 4).
13. "He is tending the _____" (verse 11).
14. "Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him _____ in front of Samuel" (verse 8).
15. "The LORD _____ to Samuel" (verse 1).
16. From what will God save the needy? _____ (Psalm 72:13, NIV).
17. What will the wise do? _____ (Psalm 107:43, NIV).

Puzzle Clue: God judges us from the inside, from __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __.