

And the LORD said, Arise

1 Samuel 16:12 KJV And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he.

Let's back up to versus One, chapter twelve of First Samuel. God is directing Samuel to abandon Saul and seek out a new direction for Israel and its King. Backing up even more to chapter 14 and 15 we see the personal battle that Samuel goes through with Saul. Saul is living for himself and doing what he wants, He isn't seeking the guidance from God or from Samuel. (Insert lesson here: As I prepare for the ministry that God is laying before me I need to

1. Not serve myself or my flesh
2. Go to God for answers and guidance through pray and reading of the Word.
3. Seek Godly counsel from my Pastor and other Godly men.)

OK the battle I'm sure was in Samuel's heart "God you lead me to Saul and look at the mess he has made, what have I done wrong" Is this not our heart and actions when things don't go our way? OK back to chapter sixteen.

Samuel's purpose is changed from Saul to the next King. God tells Samuel to go to Jesse and get the next new King that God has provided himself. What is the first thing Samuel does? That's right he says YES LORD I will abandon all I am doing and run to Jesse's house right now! No his first reaction is self preservation. (Insert point here WE DO THE SAME THING!!)

As I prepare for ministry though the preaching at church, through involvement in whatever ministry I work in, through School and personal time with God, I get this thought that doing this will get me to that point (insert your objective here). Yet so often as we run to where we think we ought to be and even when we are where we ought to be as is true with Samuel is here, God shows up. When God shows up things CHANGE (sorry for the bad word, I know we all hate that word, chhaanngge).

Praise God for this, if he didn't show up in a manger and live amounst mankind then we would have no hope.

You know, as Jonah did and we do every day when God told Samuel to go to Jesse house he could have said NO. He could have said God I won't do it. I WILL NOT GO. In fact he did say that, he said "How can I Go?" Saul will kill me. God might tell us to abandon a ministry and go elsewhere and we might say "How can I go"? God YOU don't understand! That's what is being said. HA HA HA God doesn't understand that is LOL! I Samuel 16:4 should be the driving force for all Christians.

1 Samuel 16:4 KJV And (your name here) did that which the LORD spake, and came to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, Comest thou peaceably?

If we would only do that which we are supposed to do as God told us to do how much easier this ministry thing would be.

Samuel does go to Jesse's house he goes one by one to his sons. Nope you're not it not you not you..... Jesse is this all your sons? I know God said that your son will be the next King but it won't be any one in this house? More confusion more frustration on Samuels part, God you sent me here YOU told me to come here I am risking my life for this and the next King isn't even here? Come on God! We all say this don't we? We get to where we are told to be and it isn't what we expected and we want to blame God. Like he made a mistake. Verse 11 is a key pivot point in this story for me; Samuel says to Jesse go get the youngest, I won't sit till he comes back.

1. Standing is work; do we work where we are in serving God?
 - a. We may not be doing what we are there for.
 - b. We may be working but not working on what we thought we supposed to be doing.
2. Standing is waiting; do we wait for what God has in store for us?

David runs in the house, door slams behind him. You see when he heard that Samuel was at his house He ran. HE RAN to get to Samuel. I believe that David knew all that was going on in town, He knew that Sauls day were numbered. I'm not sure but I'm pretty sure that while tending the sheep he prayed. Oh God I want to serve you! I want to be in ministry! Why am I stuck here in the back yard with sheep when the real work is in town? Oh God please make me King. I believe the Word says that God places His desires in our hearts for our lives, and I believe that God did this for David as well. David hears from his father's servants David!!!! David!! Where are you David! David is found possibly standing over the caucus of a bear, or may be a lion. A small sheep lays near him safe after being taking from the fold. "David, your dad needs you at the house Samuel is here and wants to see you." Running fast as he can he barges into the house of his father Jesse. What does he find? Who does find? Samuel. Sitting. Sitting? Wait Samuel said I won't sit, why is he sitting? Did he get tired in his word? Did he get tired in his waiting? Was he distracted by something? The Lord says ARIASE! Anoint him; for this is he. Samuel sees the young lad, red or ruddy, he stands to his feet and anoints him.

In just a few chapters we see the same struggles that we face every day. Samuel is busy, busy doing what is right and good. He is serving the Lord. He is doing as he was told to do; risking his very life he leaves the safety of home and goes where God sent him. Yet once there while he is waiting he gets tired and sits. David shows up and Samuel is found sitting. Where are we when David shows up? You see David can be replaced with to exact ministry or purpose that God has given us.

Will you be found sitting?