

When children and parents have faith discussions regularly, faith multiplies.



# Faith at Home

## Parent Handout

**Theme of the Sunday:** David, King of Israel / God Looks at the Heart

**Verse of the Sunday:** ... Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah. 1 Samuel 16:1-13

**Message/Moral of the day:** In our Bible story today, God has decided to choose a new King for Israel. He told the Prophet Samuel to go to Bethlehem to the house of Jesse, because He had chosen one of Jesse's sons to be the next king of Israel. When Samuel arrived in Jerusalem, he went to Jesse's house and told him to bring his sons so that God could tell him which one He had chosen. As each of Jesse's sons passed by, God told Samuel that he was not the one. Samuel could not understand it. They were all such handsome men and very strong. Surely one of them must be the one. But God said to Samuel, "Don't consider his looks. I have rejected him. Man looks at outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

Sometimes we may think that we are too young or too old to do anything important for God. If those thoughts ever come to your mind, remember the story of David. When others looked at David, they saw a shepherd boy. When God looked at David, He saw a king.

### **Faith at Home:**

- Talk with your child/ren about how looks and intentions of the heart can be different
- Can you recall a story of someone, not looking so good, who did something great for you?
- Discuss ways to recognize a good hearted person

**Prayer & Worship:** Dear Heavenly Father, help us to remember that you don't judge people by how big they are or what they look like. You judge a person by what is in their heart. Amen.

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**Liturgical Calendar:** Gregory of Nazianzus, known as Gregory the Theologian or Gregory Nazianzen, was a 4th-century Archbishop of Constantinople, and theologian. He is widely considered the most accomplished rhetorical stylist of the patristic age. As a classically trained orator and philosopher he infused Hellenism into the early church, establishing the paradigm of Byzantine theologians and church officials.

Gregory made a significant impact on the shape of Trinitarian theology among both Greek- and Latin-speaking theologians, and he is remembered as the "Trinitarian Theologian". Much of his theological work continues to influence modern theologians, especially in regard to the relationship among the three Persons of the Trinity. Along with the brothers Basil the Great and Gregory of Nyssa, he is known as one of the Cappadocian Fathers.

Gregory is a saint in both Eastern and Western Christianity. In the Roman Catholic Church he is numbered among the Doctors of the Church; in the Eastern Orthodox Church and the Eastern Catholic Churches he is revered as one of the Three Holy Hierarchs, along with Basil the Great and John Chrysostom.