



Baggage Handler (Saul)

Sunday, July 7, 2019

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Stepping Stones Community Church

1. Saul - God's choice for king

- Humble
- Hiding among the baggage
- Victory through God's power

²⁰ ... I am here to tell you that you and your family are the focus of all Israel's hopes." ²¹ Saul replied, "But I'm only from the tribe of Benjamin, the smallest tribe in Israel, and my family is the least important of all the families of that tribe! Why are you talking like this to me?" **1 Samuel 9:20-21 NLT**

¹⁷ Later Samuel called all the people of Israel to meet before the LORD at Mizpah... Now, therefore, present yourselves before the LORD by tribes and clans." ²⁰ So Samuel brought all the tribes of Israel before the LORD, and the tribe of Benjamin was chosen by lot. ²¹ Then he brought each family of the tribe of Benjamin before the LORD, and the family of the Matrites was chosen. And finally Saul son of Kish was chosen from among them. But when they looked for him, he had disappeared! ²² So they asked the LORD, "Where is he?" And the LORD replied, "He is hiding among the baggage." ²³ So they found him and brought him out, and he stood head and shoulders above anyone else. ²⁴ Then Samuel said to all the people, "This is the man the LORD has chosen as your king. No one in all Israel is like him!" And all the people shouted, "Long live the king!"

1 Samuel 10:17-24 NLT

⁶ Then the Spirit of God came powerfully upon Saul, and he became very angry. ⁷ He took two oxen and cut them into pieces and sent the messengers to carry them throughout Israel with this message: "This is what will happen to the oxen of anyone who refuses to follow Saul and Samuel into battle!" And the LORD made the people afraid of Saul's anger, and all of them came out together as one.

1 Samuel 11:6-7 NLT

2. Saul - Slipping away from God

- Concerned with what people think
- Disobeying God's law
- Replaced by God with someone else

¹¹ ... But Samuel said, "What is this you have done?" Saul replied, "I saw my men scattering from me, and you didn't arrive when you said you would, and the Philistines are at Micmash ready for battle..." ¹³ "How foolish!" Samuel exclaimed. "You have not kept the command the LORD your God gave you. Had you kept it, the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever." ¹⁴ But now your kingdom must end, for the LORD has sought out a man after his own heart. The LORD has already appointed him to be the leader of his people, because you have not kept the LORD's command."

1 Samuel 13:11, 13-14 NLT

Next Steps:

- Re-read today's Bible verses this week
- Ask God to help me to be faithful as I follow Jesus, to surrender my ego and follow his will
- Confess my sins of choosing my own ways over God's will: _____
- To draw closer to God this week, I will: _____

- _____