

A Man after God's Heart

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Sunday, June 18th

God is relational so He created us for relationships, And relationships for us! (Gen 2:18)

We prone to think others in our relationships “owe us”. (*Happiness, respect, love, affection, appreciation, etc*) The truth is that God brings us into relationships in order to “**GROW** US!”

God actively seeks relationships with us (Jn 4:23; John 14:18,21) Satan seeks to rob us of this relationship through deception, distraction, infection & rebellion. (Jn 10:10; 1 Jn 5:19) God gives us His Word and Spirit to help us recognize God's divine destiny for us; 1 Tim 1:5 “*the end (telos: goal) of the commandment is (To Love Purely) charity out of a pure heart, (To See Clearly) and of a good conscience, (To Trust Sincerely) and of faith unfeigned*”

As well as Satan's determined “devices” (2 Cor 2:11) to attack us in each of these areas.

To accomplish this He brings into our lives:

- **Ministry Partners** (Pastors, Preachers, Teachers) (1 Cor 3:9; Heb. 12:7,17; Eph. 4:10-16)

This includes our spiritual brothers and sisters. Heb 3:12-15 “*if ye will hear His Voice harden not your hearts...*” (See also Isaiah 30:20,21)

- **Marriage Partners** Eph. 5:21-32; 1 Peter 3:1-8; Mal 2:14 “*yet is she thy companion, (haberet: knit together) and the wife of thy covenant.*” (berît: from bārâ meaning to select, feed, render clear)

- **Men Partners (Father figures)** What's God looking for in a Man (Father)?

Acts 13:18-22 Paul records that God led Israel to Canaan and raised up judges to lead them.

When Israel demanded a King, God gave them Saul, who “looked” the part (1 Sam. 9:2).

His true nature (pride, impatience, insecurity) was first revealed under pressure in 1 Sam. 13.

Vs 14 Samuel revealed: “*thy kingdom shall not continue: the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart, and ...commanded him to be captain over his people*”

Saul had forgotten that Israel were God's people, not just His. His authority came from his relationship to God. Since he wasn't willing to be “*a man under (God's) authority*”; he could not be trusted to be “*a man of authority*”. (Mt 8:9) God gave him multiple opportunities to obey, but his behavior continued to reveal his Pride and Bitterness (1 Sam 14&15) which led to his rebellion.

1 Sam. 15:23 “*For rebellion (merî' from mara: bitterness) is as the sin of witchcraft, (qesem': divination) and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.*”

In 1 Sam. 16 God sends Samuel to anoint the next King and warned him not to focus on the exterior because “*the LORD looks on the heart.*” Vs 7 vs. 13 “*Then Samuel ...anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward.*”

David was chosen to lead God's People, Not because He couldn't or didn't sin,

But because he couldn't get comfortable in sin. Ps 32; Ps. 51

1Sam 13:14 “*The LORD hath sought a man after his own heart*”

Acts 13:22 “*I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.*”

What does a man after God's heart look (act) like?

Ps 78:70-72 “*He chose David also his servant, and took him from the sheepfolds..he brought him to feed (rā'â: shepherd) Jacob his people, and Israel his inheritance. So he fed them according to the integrity of his heart; (tom: innocence; From tāmam': consumed to be complete, upright) and guided (nāḥâ: govern, guide, straighten) them by the skilfulness (tâbûwn: understanding, wisdom) of his hands.*”

Personal Integrity was important to God (and to David). Ps. 7:8; Ps 15; 25:21; 26:11; 41:12.

David passed this passion for Integrity on to Solomon. (Pr. 11:3; 19:1; 20:7)

1Sam 13:14 *"The LORD hath sought a man after his own heart
And commanded him to be captain over his people."*

**Conclusion: God is still seeking men "after his heart",
Who He can trust to**

1) Follow him *"in paths of righteousness"* (Ps. 23:3)

2) Focus on ("consumed" with) personal integrity.

3) Feed / Lead (shepherd) others with integrity/skill. This includes:

➤ **Their family.** Ps. 127:3 *"children are an heritage of the LORD"*

Pr 22:7 *"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he's old, he'll not depart from it."*

➤ **Their Friends:** Pr 27:17 *"Iron sharpens iron; so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend."*
(rēa' : companion) {Rea comes from "raa": meaning to shepherd!}

Pr 17:17 *"A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity."*

Pr 18:24 *"A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh
closer than a brother."*

Jn 15:13 *"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."*

➤ **God's Flock: Others God wants to love through you.**

Paul modeled this to Timothy *"my own son in the faith"* 1Tim 1:2 (See also Phil. 2:19-22)

And the Thessalonian church 1 Th 2:10-12 *"...That ye would walk worthy of God..."*

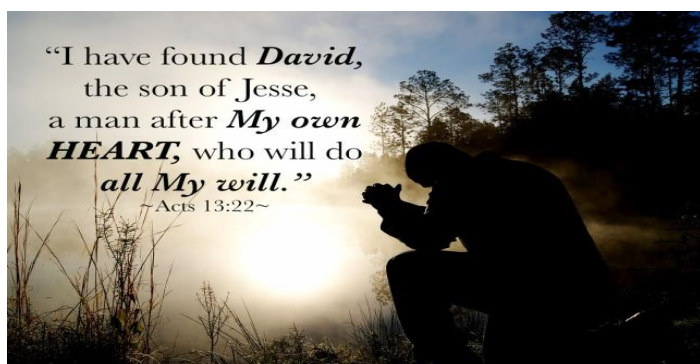
Application

God's still seeking men (women) who will value/pursue integrity and skill (wisdom);

Who He can trust to partner with him in the shepherding (cultivation) of His people.

God reveals in Ezekiel 22 the condition of His people and the reasons for his impending judgment.

**Ez 22:30 *"I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the
gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none!"***



Will He Find One in You?