



Outward Appearances Vs. Inward Qualities

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KIDS WORSHIP & STORY

Please go to the Westside Kids Page and watch the downloaded story.

PEOPLE IN BIBLE TIMES

Guardians Galatians 4

STORIES ABOUT GOD'S WORD

Your Part in a Happy Family Colossians 3:18-21

WORDS TO TREASURE

Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart. —1 Samuel 16:7

Complete the following sentences to tell God what you love most about your family and friends.

READING PLAN

WOMEN OF FAITH

MONDAY
Esther 4-5

TUESDAY
Ruth 1

WEDNESDAY
Luke 1:26-56

THURSDAY
1 Samuel 1

FRIDAY
Acts 9:32-43

SATURDAY
Luke 1:5-25

SUNDAY
Luke 7:36-50

APPLICATION

I love my mom because
 I love my dad because
 I love my sister because
 I love my brother because
 I love God because
 I love my best friend because

Use a paper to write down what you think your family and friends love about you.

Mary Can Be Our Example

Many Bible people are good examples for us to follow. Mary is one of the best. Mary was a young woman, engaged to Joseph. When an angel told Mary that God had chosen her to be the mother of the Christ-child, Mary must have worried. What would Joseph and other people think if she had a baby when she was not married? Read Luke 1:26–38. What did Mary decide?

With one of your parents, talk about times when it is hard to do what God wants because others might laugh at you or be angry with you. When you do what God wants, no matter what others may think, you are following Mary's good example.

Live It!



Luke 1:26–38

Then Draw a picture of yourself, and always remember that God made you perfect just the way you are!

WORDS TO TREASURE

an activity that extends connection and engagement with Parents & Children

1. Samuel anoints David with _____ .

Special Women Deserve Praise

Abigail is a famous woman in the Bible. Read 1 Samuel 25:1–19,35–42. How can you tell from this Bible story that she was both brave and wise? When David saw how special Abigail was, he did two things. He praised (thanked) God for her (verse 32). And he praised Abigail for her good judgment (verse 33).

You can praise the women you know just as David praised Abigail. Think about what makes each one special. Thank God for them. Now choose one of the women and write her a letter. In your letter, tell her why you think she is special.

Live It!



1 Samuel 25:1–19,35–42

2. David was a _____ before he became king.
3. What does a king or Queen wear on their head? _____
4. God is our _____.
5. God looks at the _____.
6. _____ can help you look into people's hearts.
7. The man who Samuel anoints with oil. _____
8. Man looks at the _____ appearance.

Love and Actions

Read 1 John 3:16–20. How do we know God loves us? How do we as Christians show that the love of God is in us?

Play a game at the dinner table or in the car. Each person is to say "Love is . . ." and then describe a way to show love by an action. For instance, "Love is helping with the dishes." "Love is praying with me at night." "Love is mowing the grass of someone who is disabled." Each person must think of something new within five seconds, or he or she is out.

Count the number of "love is" actions your family can name. Now see how many of them your family can put into practice.

Live It!



1 John 3:16–20

DEVOTIONAL

Outward Appearances Vs. Inward Qualities

1 Samuel, Chapter 16, verses 1-13

introduction

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king." But Samuel said, "How can I go? Saul will hear about it and kill me." The Lord 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." Samuel did what the Lord said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, "Do you come in peace?" Samuel replied, "Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed stands here before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, "The Lord has not chosen this one either." Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, "Nor has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, "The Lord has not chosen these." So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?" "There is still the youngest," Jesse answered, "but he is tending the sheep." Samuel said, "Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives." So he sent and had him brought in. He was ruddy, with a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; he is the one." So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came upon David in power.

devotion

"God has a quite different approach to choosing kings, doesn't he? This shows that God thinks a lot differently than we do about what's important when it comes to people. Listen to this "Live It!" article in the Adventure Bible called 'What Is Important About You?' It suggests a little activity you can try later at home to remind you of how God evaluates people." When Samuel saw the first of Jesse's sons, he thought he knew who Israel's next king would be. But he was looking at the wrong thing—at the outside or physical appearance of the person. What part of a person is important to God? Cut a heart from red construction paper. Make it large enough to cover your face if you tape the heart to a mirror. On the heart write something that God thinks is important in a person who loves him, like "helpful," "caring," "honest," or "friendly." Put up the heart where you will see it, to help you remember that what is really important about you is the kind of person you are on the inside.

application

Ask the children, "How do you choose your friends? Your heroes? Your role models? Your mentors? Why not begin to choose people the way God does? Ignore the person's outward appearance (including his or her wealth, clothes, house, and possessions). Start looking at his or her heart. Here's a tip: If you find it a little hard to look into someone's heart, ask God to help you. He's good at it! God will help you decide whether the person you're considering as a friend, hero, role model, or mentor is the right one to choose. And don't forget—when God looks at you, he's not as concerned about your physical appearance or other outward things as he is about what kind of qualities you have in your heart!"

Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.

—1 Samuel 16:7

Statement of Faith

ABOUT GOD

God is the one and only true God, yet He exists in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. God is the Creator, so everything belongs to Him and is under His control. God is holy, so He is righteous, majestic, and loving. God is all knowing and purposeful, so He's at work to bring about His will. No person, thing, or idea compares to God.

ABOUT THE SCRIPTURES

God reveals Himself to us through the Bible, and it is 100% accurate, reliable, and authoritative.

ABOUT PEOPLE

People are made in God's image and for His pleasure. But everybody falls short of God's intention, or ideal, for people. In other words, everyone has sinned. As a result, we are all separated from Him, even though He wants an intimate relationship with each of us.

ABOUT SALVATION

That's why Jesus—God's Son—came and lived on this earth, died, and rose again. God offers His free gift of salvation to all who believe in Jesus and accept Him as Savior—the only way to be forgiven and reconciled to God. Anyone who accepts this gift is adopted as a son or daughter into God's family and will live with Him forever in heaven.

