



31 October 2025

God Knows and Cares

1 Samuel chapter 16 opens with God telling the prophet Samuel to anoint the one He had chosen to replace king Saul. Recall the events leading up to this.

God sent Samuel to tell Saul that He was to destroy the Amalekites—all of them and all that they had—because of what they had done to Israel on their way out of Egypt. Samuel records,

“But Saul and the people spared Agag [the king of the Amalekites] and the best of the sheep, the oxen, the fatlings, the lambs, and all that was good, and were not willing to destroy them utterly; but everything despised and worthless, that they utterly destroyed.”

And so Samuel told Saul, “Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He has also rejected you from being king.”

God then told Samuel that one of Jesse’s sons was His chosen one to succeed Saul. When Samuel went to anoint the new king, Jesse presented seven of his sons one at a time to Samuel. But Samuel told Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen these.” Jesse’s youngest son was out tending the sheep because Jesse had not considered calling him in to be considered by Samuel. When he came in, God told Samuel, “Arise, anoint him; for this is he.”

Have you ever wondered what this son, David, thought about initially being left out, that his dad had not even considered him? Even after being anointed to be the next king, David’s brothers were far from impressed with their kid brother, and did not appreciate him. But God looked at, knew and cared about David. You see, as God told Samuel, “God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart” (16:7). He told Samuel “this is he” because He knew David’s heart, he was a young man “after His own heart” (13:14).

I suspect each one of us have had at least a few moments of thinking, of feeling, “What about me? Does anyone care about or even notice me and what I do day after day? I don’t want to brag, but I think I’ve tried my best to follow and serve God, and have done some pretty good things.”



God always notices and knows, and He always cares about you, about your heart, what you do, what you want to do.

It is nice to be noticed and appreciated. But never be discouraged, even if no one seems to notice or care about how much you love God and what you do for Him. God knows, He cares. When it is all said and done, the notice and appreciation of anyone else, of everyone else, cannot compare to God's "Well done, good and faithful servant."

There is a song titled, "Jesus Knows and Cares."

The first verse sings, "When the road is rough and the way is dim, Jesus knows, Jesus cares; when the darkness comes we can go to Him, Jesus knows, Jesus cares."

Then the chorus, "He knows from His throne above; He cares with a perfect love! Go to Jesus for peace, go to Him for rest; Jesus knows, Jesus cares."

Always remember God's word through Isaiah,

"Do not fear, for I am with you; do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand." (Isaiah 41:10)

Yes, Jesus knows and cares about you and what is going on in your life.

Pastor Lyle