



"The People In Our Lives"

Cypress Bible Notes

July 29, 2007

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Series: The People in our Lives, Message #2, David and Samuel

The People Who Anoint Us

I Samuel 16:1-13

Listen! I have two diplomas from Dallas Theological Seminary—one of the most prestigious and academically challenging theological institutions in the nation. Those two diplomas are in a box somewhere in my garage and they qualify me for nothing.

Question: Why do we not believe in our ministry abilities, our ministry calling, and our opportunities for impact? Why do we largely sit on the sidelines watching the dog and pony show of the “ministry professionals?”

The people doing ministry now will not be doing it forever. 1 Samuel 16:1

God is out looking for new workers to anoint. 1 Samuel 16:1

These new workers are largely unknown, untested, and untrained. 1 Samuel 16:11

God uses His people to anoint new servants for His own glory. 1 Samuel 16:13

What do we take away from all of this?

#1 We need to remember that David was not a likely candidate for anointing.

#2 We need to thank the people who anointed us.

#3 We need to anoint the people God brings to us.

The Big Idea: Anointing is a two-edged sword:

...we receive anointing and dive into ministry.

...we give anointing and launch others into ministry.

Walking Papers

Practical Helps for Walking With God

Central Truth: Anointing is a two-edged sword:

...we receive anointing and dive into ministry.

...we give anointing and launch others into ministry.

Please take some time this week to work on the life change applications from today's passage:

- **Today:** Make a list of the people who "anointed" you in one way or another. Do you need to thank one of them? Two of them?
- **Monday:** In what ways do you consider yourself to be untested, untrained, inexperienced, or otherwise unqualified to do ministry?
- **Tuesday:** Remember that David started as "the haqqaton" or "the kid" or "the punk." What else was true of David before he was anointed? Now, in light of these realities about David, go back and cross off everything you put on your list on Monday.
- **Wednesday:** Who are the people in your life that God may want you to "anoint" in some way? What does He want you to do in order to help them believe in themselves and get launched into ministry?
- **Thursday:** Read the attached letter to "Norm" and write a journal reflection on what it means for you.
- **Friday:** Who "anointed" Jesus as a young Person? List all of them—there was more than One.
- **Saturday:** Who did Jesus anoint for ministry? Are you on the list? Why or why not? Give a Scripture reference.

**“In my insignificant, sheep-keeping
obscurity, I am chosen.”**

Eugene Peterson

July 29, 2007

Dear Norm,

I am writing to thank you for the anointing you put on my life more than three decades ago. I was in my 20's then I don't think you realize what you did for me.

I was young, inexperienced, and afraid. I had no confidence and no training and no knowledge. I had desire but really nothing else. I know you knew all this and therefore it is all the more remarkable that you befriended me and took up my cause.

You were the first one who believed in me. You were the first one who affirmed me. You were the first one who gave me a chance. You were the first one who modeled Christ-following for me. You were the first one who showed me what sacrificial service looked like. You were the first one who lived a love for ministry in front of me. You were the first one who encouraged me to press on in ministry. You were the first man I saw who loved ministry more than money. You were the first man I knew who had great zeal for God and for His work and for His people. You were the first man I knew who loved lost people and made great sacrifices for them. You were the first guy who modeled selflessness for me—it was clear to me that personal fame and advancement were not in your heart.

In short Norm, you anointed me when I needed it desperately.

My only regret is that I did not write this before you died. This is my fault and I apologize for it.

I wish I could have been at your funeral. My sister said the line of cars going to the grave yard was more than a mile long. Years later I was in the courthouse and saw an aerial photo taken at dusk of your funeral procession. Pastor Norm, the cars with their headlights stretched from the graveyard back into town. It was a big-city traffic jam on a gravel road that usually got 8 cars a day. It was a testimony to how well you were loved and how many people you had helped. It was a visual declaration that I am not the only one you anointed.

Thank you my friend. You really helped me. You were the very first person who ever anointed me. I was 28 years old and needed that anointing desperately. God bless you for it.

Your grateful protégé,

Dave